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NAKASONE SAYS UNEMPLOYMENT 'GETTING SERIOUS'

OW030413 Tokyo KYODO in English 0329 GMT 3 Mar 87

[Text] Tokyo, March 3 KYODO -- Japan's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate hit 3.0 percent in January, the worst on record and up 0.1 percentage point from December, reflecting the deflationary impact on the economy of the high exchange value of the yen, a government report said Tuesday.

The Management and Coordination Agency said the 3.0 percent figure was the worst since it started the monthly report in 1953, surpassing the previous record of 2.9 percent marked in July, August and December of last year.

The unemployment rate for women also stood at a record 3.0 percent, while the 2.9 percent rate for men was the second-worst after last July's 3.0 percent, the report said.

Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone told reporters after a cabinet session which approved the report that the employment situation "is getting serious." He said the government would do its best to obtain early Diet approval of the national budget for fiscal 1987, starting in April, and would take additional measures to stimulate the economy.

An agency official said, "The employment situation is very severe, and its recovery depends on whether the country will be able to change its industrial structure to one driven by domestic demand."

The report said the number of unemployed rose 170,000 from a year ago to 1.82 million. Those out of work in the 15 to 24 age group increased by 90,000 to 400,000.

It said 57.16 million people were employed in January, about 240,000 more than in the same month last year. However, the number of workers in the manufacturing sector fell 380,000 from a year ago to 14.30 million amid a prolonged business slump in the wake of the yen's rise in value. The number of people employed in the textile and transportation machinery industries, including automobiles and shipbuilding, fell sharply due to sluggish exports, agency officials said.

Meanwhile, the Labor Ministry said in another report to the cabinet that there were 61 jobs available for every 100 job applicants in January after seasonal adjustments, down from the 62 job openings in December.

Chief Cabinet Secretary Masaharu Gotoda told reporters the government will exercise full caution in coping with the situation, saying ensuring jobs for the people is one of the biggest tasks for the government. "Our employment measures must be adequate as the number of persons unemployed against their will has been increasing," he said.

Labor Minister Takushi Hirai told the cabinet meeting the unemployment rate may increase at an accelerated rate if the government fails to take necessary measures, officials said. The number of employed is very likely to decline in March according to the past seasonal pattern, Hirai said. He said there is a prediction in some circles that the employment situation will continue to become worse and will hit a peak in September or October.

Finance Minister Kiichi Miyazawa told reporters he had anticipated the 3 percent unemployment rate, and stressed the need for early Diet passage of the fiscal 1987 state budget which includes government programs for creating 300,000 jobs.

NAKASONE REAFFIRMS ADHERENCE TO FISCAL REFORM

OW261347 Tokyo KYODO in English 1312 GMT 26 Feb 87

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 26 KYODO -- Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone, speaking before the full House of Representatives, confirmed Thursday [26 February] that the government will hold fast to its target of halting the issuance of deficit-covering bonds by fiscal 1990.

He made the statement amid rising calls within his own government and Liberal-Democratic Party (LDP) for relaxing the current austere budget policy to increase fiscal spending to stimulate the economy so as to honor Japan's commitment to expansion of domestic demand. The commitment was made at the G-5 and G-7 meetings of industrial democracies in Paris over the last weekend.

Prime Minister Nakasone admitted the necessity of taking urgent measures for boosting domestic demand after the parliamentary passage of the state budget for fiscal 1987 starting in April. But he said the government will adhere to its policy of administrative and fiscal reform.

His remarks showed a delicate difference from what Finance Minister Kiichi Miyazawa said at the same plenary session of the Lower House.

Miyazawa said fiscal authorities are now confronted with the problem of how to work out a basic agreement on giving priority to expansion of domestic demand and increasing social infrastructure while curbing general expenditures.

He thus indicated that he may rethink the so-called "minus ceiling" principle regarding investment expenditures, such as for public works. Under this principle, government agencies have so far been required to curb new budget demands below their previous year's budgets.

Miyazawa also made the same remark at a meeting of the House of Councillors finance committee the same day.

Replying to questions, the prime minister denied the government is thinking of revising the 1987 budget although a Diet debate on the budget has been held up because of the opposition's boycott. He stressed the need to get the budget through the Diet as soon as possible to take measures for expansion of domestic demand and thus invigorate the Japanese economy dampened by the rapid appreciation of the yen against the dollar.

Miyazawa referred to an agreement reached at the Paris meetings that individual nations' intervention in foreign exchange markets to ensure currency stability will not be made public. Some countries called for clear-cut action disclosing the market intervention, but it was agreed that details will not be published for fear of a possible impact on foreign exchange markets, he said.

Pushes for Tax Reform

OW030545 Tokyo KYODO in English 0533 GMT 3 Mar 87

[Text] Tokyo, March 3 KYODO -- Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone vowed Tuesday to push through the government's tax reform program, which he said is essential to carry Japan through to the 21st century.

Nakasone, testifying before the Lower House budget committee, also pledged to bolster the government's financial structure so that the social insurance system can withstand pressure of an aging society.

"If nothing is done, then the state finance will shrink and so will the industrial process of the nation," Nakasone said in response to a question posed by Ganri Yamashita of the ruling Liberal-Democratic Party. Yamashita, vice chairman of the LDP's Tax Reform Council, kicked off a six-day general questioning at the key Lower House panel.

The committee, which is responsible for deliberating the government's fiscal 1987 budget, was summoned to session 12 days after the government resubmitted the budget bill in the wake of a month-long stoppage.

Nakasone said the tax reform — which has been subject to sharp criticism from the opposition — is necessary to correct distortions in the existing tax system introduced in 1950. The government-proposed tax reform program features a cut in personal and corporate income tax to be balanced with the introduction of a broadly based sales tax.

"When we think of Japan in the 21st century, we must carry out (the tax reform) at all cost," Nakasone told the panel in renewing his determination to enact the tax reform.

Defending the government's tax reform proposal, Finance Minister Kiichi Miyazawa denied that the reform benefits the rich more than the low-paid workers. Miyazawa backed up his argument, noting that most of the income earners in Japan will be paying less than 15 percent in income tax under the new taxation scheme.

The rate of income tax for an annual income of up to 4.3 million yen will be 10 percent, and that for income of up to 8.8 million yen will be 15 percent, Miyazawa noted. Also, Miyazawa contended that the abolition of tax-free deposit system will hurt the rich more than the poor people.

LDP TO PUNISH ANTI-SALES TAX DIET MEMBERS

OW021335 Tokyo KYODO in English 1305 GMT 2 Mar 87

[Text] Tokyo, March 2 KYODO — Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone and ruling Liberal-Democratic Party (LDP) leaders decided Monday to penalize LDP Diet members who are opposing a proposed sales tax. The prime minister urged party unity to pass the 1987 budget and the sales tax bill, LDP sources said.

In Monday's LDP-government meeting, Nakasone said LDP Diet members who have opposed openly the tax bill "lack consciousness as party members" and have gone against the party decision for their "personal opinions and interest in their own electorates." Their conduct will be remembered when it comes time for future promotions to party posts, Nakasone said.

Deputy Prime Minister Shin Kamemaru demanded a "strong warning" be given to the opposers, adding that Kunio Hatoyama, a Tokyo representative, "is saying whatever he wants," which threatens party unity. The senior LDP lawmaker also said the LDP must try its best to pass the bill as it stands because opposition parties would not accept any modification of the bill.

The LDP executives met to urge party unity as Diet business resumes Tuesday and to call for early passage of the 1987 budget and along with it, the controversial sales tax bill. A budget committee session will take place Tuesday.

Acting head of LDP policy research council Koichi Kato said the party might not give recommendations to opposers in the next national election.

Under the new tax bill, if approved by the Diet, a 5 percent sales tax will be imposed on business transactions from the wholesale stage to the retail stage. Not only opposition parties have joined hands to fight against the bill, but also six LDP Diet members and local party members have voiced openly their opposition to the tax bill.

Yoshiro Mori, acting chairman of the party's decision-making Executive Council, said, "We will collect data on member's activities regarding the tax bill which will reflect on them when major party posts and even vice ministers' posts are assigned." Noboru Takeshita, LDP secretary general, agreed, saying, "We can make report cards to clarify who will be rewarded. We will consider punishing those who disturb party rules."

The LDP published two pamphlets Monday to justify the need for the new sales tax. One is the 96-page, 300-yen "Sales Tax, Why Now?" and the other is the 700-yen "Q and A Industry by Industry," which has 340 pages. The party said in the near future, it will sell "how to" books regarding rebutting and countering the opposition arguments against the proposed tax.

FOREIGN EXCHANGE RESERVES HIT RECORD HIGH

OW020925 Tokyo KYODO in English 0919 GMT 2 Mar 87

[Text] Tokyo, March 2 KYODO -- Japan's foreign exchange reserves increased 271 million dollars in February to a record high of 51,730 million dollars at the end of the month, the Finance Ministry reported Monday.

The reserves of gold, convertible foreign currencies and special drawing rights (SDRS) -- or paper gold -- rose for the 15th straight month mainly because of increased return from investment of the reserves, ministry officials said.

The official reserves had grown by a record 9.22 billion dollars in January due to intervention in foreign exchange markets by the Bank of Japan to shore up the U.S. dollar. But the yen-dollar rate remained stable in the month at a range of 152.00-155.23 yen per dollar, requiring no central bank intervention, the official said.

The yen had reached a record high of 149.98 yen momentarily in January despite dollar-buying intervention by the Bank of Japan.

BRIEFS

LOAN TO BURUNDI -- Tokyo, Feb. 25 KYODO -- Japan exchanged notes with Burundi Tuesday to provide an official development assistance (ODA) loan of up to 1.6 billion yen to cooperate in Burundi's structural adjustment and economic stability, the Foreign Ministry said Wednesday. The loan will be made jointly with the special facility for sub-Saharan Africa (Africa facility) of the International Development Association (IDA). For the structural adjustment project of Burundi, 400 million yen will be donated separately from Japan's contribution to IDA, the ministry said. It will carry an annual interest rate of 1.25 percent with repayment over 30 years, including a 10-year grace period. [Text] [Tokyo KYODO in English 1052 GMT 25 Feb 87 OW]

LETTER REITERATES CALL FOR 'HIGH-LEVEL' TALKS

SK030434 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 0300 GMT 3 Mar 87

[Text] Comrade Yi Kun-mo, prime minister of the DPRK State Administration Council, and Comrade O Chin-u, minister of the People's Armed Forces, have sent a third letter to the South Korean prime minister and the minister of national defense.

Our side originally asked the South Korean side to accept this letter on 28 February, but delivered it to the South Korean side at the conference room of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission, Panmunjom, at 1000 this morning because the South Korean side said, for its own reasons, that it would accept it on 3 March for its own reason.

The full text of the letter is as follows:

To No Sin-yong, prime minister of the Republic of Korea [Taehan Minguk], and Yi Ki-paek, minister of national defense:

We received your side's reply letter dated 13 February: We sent a letter, containing a concrete proposal to hold high-level North-South political and military talks, to your side on 13 January, and delivered a letter urging your side to contemplate our new proposal and send an affirmative reply to it.

This repeated proposal of ours is an expression of our earnest and sincere effort to improve relations between the two sides by removing the state of confrontation between the North and the South at any cost and by creating an atmosphere of dialogue, trust, and peace.

However, your side has brought great disappointment to the people at home and abroad who desire high-level North-South political and military talks by turning away from our new proposal in your reply letter. We think this is very regrettable.

Today, removing the state of political and military confrontation prevailing between the North and the South is becoming the most urgent task facing the nation which is linked to the fate of all fellow countrymen.

At present, slander and defamation have been extremely aggravated between the North and the South and the state of isolation [kyokpae sangtae] between them has become unprecedentedly acute. Thus, political confrontation has reached the worst pitch. Also, because of the large-scale military exercise and the commotion of arms buildup, military tension has been aggravated as much as possible.

Your side will also not deny that if the current situation continues, the occurrence of any slight accidental incident along the military demarcation line could cause another fratricidal war between the North and the South.

If the fuse of war is kindled on the Korean peninsula in whatever case, this war could inevitably spread into a nuclear calamity; a wide area of Asia and the world as well as our land will be damaged by nuclear calamities. In particular, our nation, regardless of the North and the South, will suffer first from the most miserable disaster, and our fatherland will be reduced to a theater of a worldwide thermonuclear war without the separation of the front from the rear and thus, will suffer from irreparable damage.

The basic aim of our proposal to hold high-level North-South political and military talks is to turn North-South relations not into relations of distrust and confrontation, but into relations of trust and harmony, to save the country and the nation from existence-or-ruin crises, and furthermore, to open a new phase for the independent and peaceful reunification of the fatherland by averting an inauspicious incident which could occur due to misunderstanding between the two sides and by preventing enormous calamities which could befall the fellow countrymen.

Trying to solve the question of peace and reunification in the country through dialogue and negotiation between the North and the South is our consistent policy, and attempting to resume suspended North-South dialogue in various areas and hold the highest-level North-South talks is our firm stand.

However, historic experience shows that, for the realization of North-South dialogue and for its successful progress, an atmosphere in which the two sides can trust one another should be created. The arrangement of North-South dialogues in the past and some progress in those dialogues occurred because of the atmosphere of alleviation [of tension] and trust which was created at least to some degree between the two sides.

The multisided North-South talks, which were finally arranged with our relief measure for the flood victims as an opportunity, were suspended. This was because a great obstacle was created for the talks as a result of the "Team Spirit" joint military exercise staged by your side contrary to the objectives and missions of those talks and as a result of the intensification of North-South confrontation.

Your side says that this joint military exercise is a defensive exercise for the preservation of peace. However, in actuality, this military exercise is a dangerous military action which will ruin our nation and make it a victim of a global thermonuclear war.

Today's reality calls for the urgent solution of the problems to eliminate the factors which brought North-South talks to the state of suspension and to create an atmosphere of dialogue. Above all, it urgently demands the elimination of the state of tense political and military confrontation between the two sides.

Our proposals for high-level North-South political and military talks is a just proposal which reflects such a realistic demand of North-South dialogue for the creation of an atmosphere of dialogue and trust through the elimination of the state of tense political confrontation and military tension between the North and South.

Nonetheless, without taking any step to hold talks, your side says that the existing dialogue must be unconditionally resumed. We cannot understand the intention of doing so.

In view of the urgency of the prevailing situation between the North and South and in view of the principled demand for successful progress in North-South dialogue, we acknowledge that it is reasonable to hold high-level North-South political and military talks first to create an atmosphere of dialogue and, then, to resume the suspended multisided dialogues. However, if your side strongly insists on resuming the existing dialogues, we think that, while holding high-level North-South political and military talks as proposed by us, a preliminary contact for North-South parliamentary talks, North-South economic talks, and North-South Red Cross talks can be simultaneously resumed.

If your side affirmatively responds to our proposal for high-level North-South political and military talks, we think that it is all right [mubang hada] to resume the existing dialogues at the same time as holding high-level North-South political and military talks, because it can then be regarded as a clue that has been found to the elimination of the state of political and military confrontation between the North and South and because it can be accordingly acknowledged that the atmosphere of dialogue between the two sides is favorably created for the moment.

In addition, we think that if the high-level North-South political and military talks are held, then at the talks, along with the problems we have put forth, the question of the Kumgangsan power station construction put forth by your side can be simultaneously discussed.

Our Kumgangsan power station construction is, in actuality, a peaceful construction which is being carried out in accordance with our long-range economic action plan. Thus, this can never become an issue. However, if your side continues to misunderstand and distrust us, without holding separate talks to discuss this question, it will also be reasonable to discuss it at the high-level North-South political and military talks, because this is also a part of the question of eliminating distrust and misunderstanding and creating an atmosphere of seeking trust and conciliation between the North and South.

As for the talks between the highest persons in authority which your side calls for, since they should become historic talks which practically solve the fundamental problems concerning the peaceful reunification of the country, a good atmosphere should be provided whereby trustworthy [sinuiinnun] talks are made to attain success, in addition to enough preparation for them in advance.

As is well-known to the world, both sides have already officially made proclamations on holding highest-level North-South talks and discussing and solving the fundamental problems connected with the peaceful reunification of the country. However, it is regrettable [antakkaun] that these talks, which are to become a great event in the national history, remain at the preparatory stage, and an atmosphere enabling the talks to be held has not yet been created making the historic talks, which the entire nation is looking forward to, impossible.

We believe that if the high-level North-South political and military talks are held and make successful progress, an atmosphere for the highest-level talks will undoubtedly be created and the work to prepare them will be actively pushed ahead, making it possible to hold the highest-level talks within the shortest period of time.

Thus, our proposal for the high-level North-South political and military talks is a proposal to truly eliminate misunderstanding and distrust and create an atmosphere of trust and unity between the North and the South, thereby providing a firm guarantee to make successful progress in dialogue without any complications if dialogue is resumed again. This proposal contains our firm patriotic and nation-loving position and peace-loving will aimed at improving North-South relations through dialogue and negotiation.

Hence, believing that if your side has a sincere and serious attitude for dialogue, you will not turn away from our constructive and reasonable proposal any longer, we cordially propose that the first session of the high-level North-South political and military talks be held at 1000 on 26 March at the Tongilgak in our side's area in Panmunjom. If, owing to the circumstance of your side, you think the proposed date is inconvenient, we will leave the choice of the date for the talks at your discretion. We look forward to hearing an affirmative reply from your side.

[Signed] Yi Kun-mo, premier of the DPRK State Administration Council, and O Chin-u, minister of the People's Armed Forces

28 February 1987

NKDP TO HOLD MEMORIAL RALLY FOR PAK 3 MAR

SK021012 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1007 GMT 2 Mar 87

[Excerpt] Pyongyang March 2 (KCNA) -- The "New Korea Democratic Party," the leading opposition party of South Korea, held its Political Affairs Council meeting and a meeting of its 'National Assemblymen' on February 28 and decided to stage a peaceful silent procession in Seoul jointly with opposition organisations on the occasion of the memorial meeting on the 49th day after the death of Pak Chong-chol scheduled March 3, according to a report.

Police To Prevent Rally

SK030441 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0433 GMT 3 Mar 87

[Text] Pyongyang March 3 (KCNA) -- The Chon Tu-hwan fascist clique ordered the Seoul police on to "A-class emergency duty" from 9 Monday morning to head off the memorial service on the 49th day after the death of Pak Chong-chol scheduled March 3, according to a report.

Insulting the memorial service for the patriotic student as "an illegal rite", the fascist clique are threateningly blaring that they will "root it out".

Earlier, they had issued an "emergency duty order" for the period from February 28 to March 4 to the police all over South Korea.

This is a fascist frenzy to bar even the memorial service for the patriotic student planned by the "New Korea Democratic Party" and opposition organisations and people of all strata by issuing double and treble repressive orders.

Kim Tae-chung Arrested

SK030439 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0432 GMT 3 Mar 87

[Text] Pyongyang March 3 (KCNA) -- The Chon Tu-hwan fascist clique put under house arrest for the 49th time on March 2 Kim Tae-chung, co-chairman of the Council for the Promotion of Democracy, a South Korean opposition organization, according to a foreign press report from Seoul.

The fascist clique sought in this to prevent him from attending a political rally of the "New Korea Democratic Party" scheduled for later in the day and a memorial service on the 49th day after the death of Pak Chong-chol scheduled March 3.

COMMENTATOR DENOUNCES 'PANGPAE-87' EXERCISE

SK022222 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 1150 GMT 26 Feb 87

[Commentary by station commentator Kim Myong-nam: "Rash Act of the Warmongers"]

[Text] According to reports, the South Korean puppets will conduct the "Pangpae-87" war exercise in the metropolitan area on 26-28 February under the pretext of preparing against someone's provocation. It is said that the puppet army forces, the puppet police, the Homeland Reserve Forces, and the Civil Defense Corps will participate in this war exercise which will be conducted under the supervision of the Pangpae unit of the puppet Army, and that the exercise will be conducted against an imaginary enemy in an environment of an actual war, with the firing of guns and cannon. This is another reckless and rash military act of the warmaniacs.

As is known, Together with the U.S. imperialists, the South Korean puppets began the largest "Team Spirit 87" joint military exercise, where large-scale forces approximately 200,000 strong are being mobilized. Because of this war exercise, a preliminary war and a test nuclear was designed to invade the northern half of our Republic, the situation on the Korean peninsula is going through a very grave phase and peace and stability in this area is greatly threatened. Therefore, branding it a grave challenge to peace, the Korean people and the peace-loving peoples in Asia and the world as well strongly protest and denounce the "Team Spirit 87" war exercise which the U.S. imperialist and the Chon Tu-hwan ring began. They also demand that it be stopped immediately. However, in defiance of this demand, the Chon Tu-hwan ring began such games of playing with fire as "Pangpae-87." This is truly a challenge to public opinion at home and abroad and an unforgivable mockery of the people's aspirations for peace.

The puppets babbled about someone's provocation when they began the "Pangpae-87" war exercise. This is sophistry designed to justify their crimes. It is recognized by the entire world and a stark reality that the only threats of invasion that exist in Korea are those of northward invasion, not those of southward invasion. Nevertheless, the puppets began the frantic war exercise commotion while babbling about nonexistent so-called threats of provocation for southward invasion. Their purpose is clear. It is designed, among other things, to provide conditions and an environment favorable to staging a northward invasion. For this very purpose, the puppets have always sought an opportunity for northward invasion, while constantly maintaining a ready posture and continuously conducting war exercises.

The puppets' ulterior motive of kicking up the "Pangpae-87" war exercise commotion is to threaten with the force of arms the youths, students, and people who are courageously rising up in the anti-U.S. and antifascist struggle for independence, democracy, and reunification and to resolve the crisis that face the quaking military fascist rule.

As is known, a new semester will begin in March in South Korean universities. Whenever a new semester begins each year, the struggle of the South Korean youths and students is renewed in intensity. Moreover, because the truth about the puppets' brutal torture and murder of patriotic student Pak Chong-chol was disclosed, the youths and students who are gnashing their teeth over this incident are expected to wage a fiercer struggle than ever. In addition, with the call of the opposition party and off-stage democratic organizations, memorial meetings for student Pak Chong-chol are expected to be held on 3 March in Seoul and numerous other cities. Such a development of the situation makes the Chon Tu-hwan military fascist clique tremble with utmost uneasiness and fear.

Therefore, the puppets are making desperate efforts to block the just struggle of the youths, students, and people and to maintain their fascist rule -- which is facing a crisis -- by any means. As part of such desperate maneuvers, the puppets are attempting to divert the attention of the youths, students, and people elsewhere and to frustrate their struggle by kicking up such commotions of playing with fire as "Pangpae-87," with a new semester just around the corner. However, this is not a show of force by the powerful but is a false show of power by the weak. The puppets will not be able to maintain their military fascist rule, which is crumbling helplessly, or to escape from destruction by any ways and means. This is the just law of the history and the stern judgment of the times. The Chon Tu-hwan clique must respond to our peace proposal after immediately stopping its criminal war maneuvers.

COMMENTARY ON PRO-COMMUNIST ROUNDUP IN SOUTH

SK021228 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2150 GMT 25 Feb 87

[NODONG SINMUN 26 February commentary: "Prelude to New Frenzy of Violence"]

[Text] The Chon Tu-hwan ring has made public the so-called incidence of a pro-North anti-U.S. communist revolution plot and is now engaged in wholesale arrest. The fascist clique has already rounded up 17 people, including Kim Yong-hwan, a Seoul National University senior, who has been charged as the main figure in the incident. Among them, 13 people have been arrested on charges of violating the National Security Law and 24 others have been booked.

In making public the incident, the puppet Seoul district prosecution office attached the formidable accusation of an incident to overthrow the U.S. imperialists and their conspirators, the comprador forces, and establish a pro-North socialist state through violent revolution based on the theory of anti-imperialist popular democratic revolution for national salvation, allegedly similar to our so-called revolutionary theory of communization of the South.

In doing so, it is now clamoring that the ferreted out organization was the highest system among the extreme left-leaning organizations, such as the already exposed Student League of National Salvation and the Chamintu, and that it had instigated the left-leaning demonstrations and disturbances on campuses and among circles of workers, such as the refusal of student military training at frontline units, the 3 May Inchon incident, and the occupation of the Pusan U.S. Cultural Center in March of last year.

Noisy advertisement and commotions are supposed to lose credibility. This is all the more so with the commotion the South Korean puppets are staging along with this incident. When the content of the incident they have made public and the timing of the publishing of the incident are taken into consideration, the so-called pro-North communist revolutionary plot allegedly ferreted out by the Chon Tu-hwan ring becomes just another concoction. It is an incident of intrigue, the purpose of which is crystal clear.

In making public the incident, the Chon Tu-hwan ring was intent on linking everything with us by saying that those who were involved in the incident followed our ideology and revolutionary line, tried to establish ties with us, and would have attempted to flee to the North if the revolution had failed. In doing so, to make this appear credible, it displayed a radio, cassette tapes, identification cards, and a map showing trails to the North as evidence.

The puppets' attempt to link the incident with us itself shows the intriguing nature of their commotion and their impure scheme. As for the anti-U.S. and antidictatorial struggle which has recently intensified in South Korea, it is a direct product of the colonial military fascist rule of the U.S. imperialists and their stooges that has continued for more than 40 years.

If one maintains man's intrinsic desire to live a prestigious life with the spirit of independence, how can he avoid overthrowing the murder-torture politics in a colonial society like South Korea?

To make people believe in their far-fetched fabrication, the puppets, along with the plentiful articles in the storeroom of the Agency for National Security Planning, has brought forth even a map to show trails to the North which only they themselves can read, the ones who promote the commotion of espionage and intrigue against us as business. By so doing, they have disclosed the nature of the plot which they formed so clumsily.

The Chon Tu-hwan ring's linking of the incident with us is to divert the people's resistant attention focused on them to anticomunism, and a criminal maneuver to justify all suppressive manuevers in which they have wielded bayonets by accusing people of being left-leaning and communist-tolerating elements in the past.

The pro-North anti-U.S. communist revolution plot they fabricated this time is a prelude of a new fascist frenzy to block the patriotic advance of youths and students as the new school semester begins in South Korea. Whenever the people's anti-U.S. and antifascist struggle intensifies and the crisis of their rule deepens, as a stereotypical trick they fabricate a communist-tolerating incident of intrigue and stage frantic oppression using this as an excuse.

Last year, too, to suffocate, eliminate, and obliterate the anti-U.S. and antifascist struggle of the youths, students, and people of all strata being waged even more boldly following the struggle to oppose the Asian Games in South Korea, the puppets fabricated the Seoul National University wall poster incident and the incident of attempting to found a Marxist-Leninist party. By so doing, they staged mass oppression against the campuses and all circles of society.

Entering this year, too, dismayed at the struggle of the youths, students, and people which becomes even more systematic and popular, the puppets have viciously staged anticomunist commotions of confrontation and intensified the suppression of patriotic democratic forces by placing on them the label of communist-tolerating elements. They put the formidable label of an impure political rally and destructive political act even on the memorial gathering for a patriotic student. By doing so, they committed the outrage of suppressing it by issuing an emergency duty order.

Today, in South Korea, as the new school semester begins, with the youths, students, and people of all strata on one side, and with the fascist Chon Tu-hwan ring on the other, a tense confrontation is expected between the patriotic democratic forces and the reactionary force. The people's indignation over the fascist hangmen's bestial torture and murder of student Pak Chong-chol has reached the skies and a memorial gathering is scheduled for 3 March. The banner of struggle against the fascist Chon Tu-hwan ring's politics of murder and torture is being held aloft even more.

The puppets greatly fear that this may erupt into a furious mass struggle.

The Chon Tu-hwan ring's scheme for long-term office via a reactionary parliamentary system also faces the people's strong resistance. The state of political disorder in South Korea is so serious that even the U.S. masters do not know what to do. Amid extreme fear and uneasiness, by using the incident they have fabricated this time, the Chon Tu-hwan clique of military rascals is trying to stage an all-out reactionary offensive against the patriotic democratic forces. By so doing, it is trying to rescue the fascist colonial rule from ruin. Meanwhile, by further expanding the stage of fascist frenzy to all circles of society, it is trying to place all areas of the South under a state of martial law and realize their dirty scheme to stay in power.

During the puppet prosecution office's revelation of the incident, the so-called DJP spokesman demonstrated an instant response, saying that left-leaning and communist tolerating elements cannot be tolerated in a so-called free democracy. This is no accident. What cannot be overlooked is that they link college lecturers, postgraduate school students, and some personages of religious circles with the incident on charges of offering funds for activities and hiding places, and also with the opposition party.

While seeking to extend power via unilateral constitutional amendment in February or March or through a coup d'etat under an emergency state, traitor Chon Tu-hwan and his DJP he sought all types of maneuvers to create an excuse to justify their actions. Thus, the incident they fabricated this time is a dirty and vicious maneuver designed to relentlessly suppress the South Korean people's unyielding anti-U.S. and antidictatorial struggle by linking it with us and making an important decision to extend their office.

However, the puppets' criminal fabrication of intrigue can convince no one and their bloody oppression and their maneuvers to stay in power, which they commit using the incident as an excuse, will only arouse strong resistance by patriotic democratic forces. The new scorching operation is only the course of ruin for the puppets themselves. The fascist Chon Tu-hwan ring must not act foolishly, but halt its bestial suppression of the patriotic students and the people of all strata at once.

WASHINGTON CONCERNED ABOUT CHON'S CRISIS

SK020749 (Clandestine) Voice of National Salvation in Korean to South Korea 0300 GMT 25 Feb 87

[Dialogue between unidentified announcer and Ko Il-chol from the program "Focus on Topics"]

[Text] [Announcer] How are you, our listeners? As our people's current anti-U.S. and antidictatorship struggle heightens in this land and the Chon Tu-hwan dictatorial regime's crisis deepens, the U.S. ruling circles are desperately attempting to prevent the Chon dictatorial regime from collapsing. During this hour you will hear about this subject from Mr. Ko Il-chol.

How are you?

[Ko Il-chol] How are you?

[Announcer] As you know, the confrontation between the ruling and opposition forces are currently strained in this land while the masses of all strata struggle against the Chon Tu-hwan group's barbarous murder by torture and suppressive rule, and while constitutional revision is at issue the dictatorial regime is being shaken in a serious crisis. Washington is experiencing great anxiety concerning this.

[Ko] Yes, that is right. As the pro-U.S. dictatorial regime falls into a deepening crisis, the U.S. ruling circles are making a desperate attempt to control the crisis, busily travelling between Seoul and Washington.

In a speech before a meeting of the U.S.-South Korean Society in New York, Sigur, U.S. assistant secretary of state for East Asian and Pacific Affairs, stated that the United States will continue to provide military aid to the Chon Tu-hwan regime and that he praises the dictator's so-called promise to transfer power. He went on to say that if constitutional revision does not come about through amicable agreement, there will be disaster and that the constitution should be a product of mutual concession and not violence or abuse of physical power or confrontation.

He also stated that for mutual concession, the criticism and grievances of the past should be abandoned. By this he was referring to the opposition party and off-stage opposition forces. At a time when our people and international opinion are raising their voices to denounce the Chon Tu-hwan group's torturing to death student Pak Chong-chol, Sigur mentioned nothing about it, but made misleading remarks as if the opposition party and off-stage opposition forces had resorted to violence and force and pressured them to make concessions to the Chon Tu-hwan group and suggested that they should not criticize, but be generous with the dictatorial regime's oppressive rule and murderous barbarity. This is an intolerable challenge and insult to our masses.

[Announcer] Yes, especially since such remarks were made by Sigur, a working-level official responsible for South Korean affairs in the U.S. State Department.

[Ko] That is right. According to a U.S. State Department information source, Secretary of State Shultz had personally read the text of Sigur's remarks. In other words, Sigur remarks had Shultz's special approval. Political circles believe that Assistant Secretary Sigur's remarks were a copy of Shultz's remarks to be made in Seoul on 6 March. Therefore, Sigur's remarks are the official position of the U.S. Administration.

[Announcer] To the best of my knowledge, when he came to Seoul toward the end of last year, Sigur also openly made remarks to support the oppressive rule of the Chon Tu-hwan dictatorial regime.

[Ko] Sigur met House Speaker Yi Chae-hyong and DJP Chairman No Tae-u. When they expressed their suppressive will by saying that they would vigorously push ahead to remove impure forces, despite the resultant sacrifice, Sigur approved, saying that it is possible.

[Announcer] Sigur was not the only one from among the U.S. ruling circles who instigated the Chon Tu-hwan group's oppressive rule and pressured the democratic patriotic forces to make concessions, was he?

[Ko] No, he was not. There is a man who has been keeping busy in Seoul engaged in activities unbecoming the position of ambassador. This is Lilley, U.S. Ambassador to South Korea, a veteran strategist of the U.S. CIA, known to be a cunning old fox.

As soon as he set foot in this land, he met not only Chon Tu-hwan and high-ranking DJP figures, but also had a secret conference with the public prosecutor-general and the justice minister. He also met with opposition party figures and off-stage opposition politicians to pressure them to accept a mutual concession between the ruling and opposition camps mapped out by the United States. He made an outburst that security is the priority and democracy is a problem that should be dealt with afterwards and did not hesitate to give the absurd description of the democratisation movement of the opposition party and off-stage opposition democratic forces as being illegal acts that hurt security and order.

[Announcer] The current busy moves of the U.S. ruling circles remind us of the eve of the fall of the pro-U.S. Marcos regime in the Philippines in February last year.

[Ko] That is right. When the people's struggle against the pro-U.S. dictatorial Marcos regime heightened in the Philippines, the U.S. ruling circles made desperate attempts to prevent the fall of the pro-U.S. dictatorial regime by any means, travelling between Manila and Washington. Today's political situation in South Korea is comparable to the eve of the fall of the pro-U.S. dictatorial Marcos regime in the Philippines, and the U.S. moves remind us of it.

Our people's grievances against the oppressive rule and the murderous barbarity of the murderous Chon Tu-hwan regime are deep-rooted everywhere in this land, and opinion at home and abroad denouncing and rejecting it is becoming stronger. Therefore, even the U.S. Congress was unable to just idly watch, and there are voices ringing out calling for a halt to the torture, a release of political prisoners, a guarantee of the people's basic rights, and other measures for democratisation.

The U.S. ruling circles are very concerned, fearing that South Korea may become another Philippines, which is why they are maneuvering so busily. The United States is trying to stop the fall of the pro-U.S. dictatorial regime in this land.

[Announcer] That is right. Gleysteen, a former U.S. Ambassador to South Korea, the behind-the-scenes manipulator of the Kwangju massacre, who flew into South Korea last month, openly stated that it is unavoidable for the United States to support the Chon Tu-hwan regime, even though it is not a legitimate government.

[Ko] Therefore, the United States openly supports the Chon Tu-hwan dictatorial regime and presses for mutual concession between the ruling and opposition camps. The United States will resort every means available, fair or foul, if they can prevent the fall of the colonial ruling system in this land. This is suggested by the violent outburst of Chon Tu-hwan in his policy speech that if constitutional revision through amicable agreement is found to be impossible, he will make a grave decision, and by the threats and blackmail of Sigur in his recent remarks that if constitutional revision through amicable agreement does not come about, there will be disaster.

The United States recently replaced the South Korean branch director of the CIA and appointed an expert strategist like Lilley to be U.S. ambassador to South Korea and appointed the warmonger Menetrey, who participated in the Korean War and the Vietnam War and who directed the Panmunjom provocation in August 1976, to be commander of the U.S. forces in South Korea, thus filling the on-the-spot ruling institutions with warmongers and strategists. This means that the United States will not hesitate to conduct massive bloodshed like that of the Kwangju massacre if the South Korean political situation does not develop as it desires, as Gleysteen and Wickham manipulated the massive bloodshed operation in Kwangju.

[Announcer] From this we surely know that the United States is the sworn enemy who blocks our nation's yearning for independence, democracy, and reunification, and the real ruler who controls the pro-U.S. dictatorial regime's murderous barbarity and makes it implement oppressive rule.

[Ko] That is right. Without U.S. support and protection, the pro-U.S. dictatorial Chon Tu-hwan regime would not survive in this land even a day. The United States is attempting to block the anti-U.S. and antidictatorship struggle heightening in this land and to bring under control the crisis in its colonial rule, but no matter what means and tactics it may employ, it will not be able to stop our people's just anti-U.S. struggle for national salvation.

[Announcer] That is right. Through their life experiences for over 40 years, our people have come to be well aware that unless the U.S. occupation of South Korea and its colonial rule are brought to an end, it is impossible to realize national sovereignty, democracy, civil rights, or the reunification of the country. As the people overthrew the pro-U.S. dictatorial Marcos regime in the Philippines, our people will certainly overthrow the pro-U.S. dictatorial Chon Tu-hwan regime and bring an end to U.S. colonial rule.

The United States should abandon their anachronistic wild fantasies and withdraw from South Korea without delay, as consistently demanded by our people, taking along the U.S. troops in South Korea and the nuclear weapons.

KIM IL-SONG SENDS GREETINGS TO AL-QADHDAFI

SK020501 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0439 GMT 2 Mar 87

[Text] Pyongyang March 2 (KCNA) — Comrade Kim Il-song, president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, sent a message of greetings on March 1 to Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Great September First Revolution of the Great Libyan Arab Socialist People's Jamahiriyyah, on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the proclamation of Jamahiriyyah in Libya.

The message says:

Over the past 10 years since the proclamation of Jamahiriyyah the Libyan Arab people have made great strides forward in their endeavours to repulse the imperialist aggressive and subversive acts and sabotages and build a new society under your correct leadership.

The Korean people sincerely rejoice over the achievements of the friendly Libyan Arab people and express positive support and firm solidarity for your struggle against imperialism and for the sovereignty of the country and the dignity of the nation.

Availing myself of this opportunity, I express the belief that the relations of friendship and cooperation between our two countries will expand and develop still further in future and sincerely wish you and your people greater success in the efforts for the independent development of the country.

FOREIGN MINISTER RETURNS FROM SFRY, INDIA

SK021021 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1015 GMT 2 Mar 87

[Text] Pyongyang March 2 (KCNA) -- Vice-Premier and Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam returned home today after visiting Yugoslavia and India.

He was met at the airport by Kim Chae-suk, vice-minister of foreign affairs, Vlado Blazevski, charge d'affaires ad interim of the Yugoslav Embassy, and Atul Pandit, charge d'affaires ad interim of the Indian Embassy, in Pyongyang, and Nikolay Shubnikov, Soviet ambassador to Korea.

KIM YONG-NAM GREETED SRV'S NGUYEN CO THACH

SK010806 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0800 GMT 1 Mar 87

[Text] Pyongyang March 1 (KCNA) -- Vice-Premier and Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam sent a message of greetings to Nguyen Co Thach upon his appointment as vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers and foreign minister of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. The message wished him success in his work.

YIM CHUN-CHU MEETS WITH GDR AMBASSADOR

SK030430 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0423 GMT 3 Mar 87

[Text] Pyongyang March 3 (KCNA) -- Vice-President Yim Chun-Chu met and had a conversation with Hans Maretzki, new ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the German Democratic Republic to Korea, when the latter paid a courtesy call on him on March 2.

GOVERNMENT BLOCKS PLANNED NKDP 'PEACE MARCH'

OW030625 Tokyo KYODO in English 0416 GMT 3 Mar 87

[Text] Seoul, March 3 KYODO -- The South Korean Government foiled a massive rally planned here Tuesday by the opposition New Korea Democratic Party (NKDP) and antigovernment groups, government sources said.

The rally was originally slated to stage a peace march from 20 different points to the Pagoda Park, central Seoul, to protest the torture-death of a Seoul National University student by police in connection with his antigovernment activities.

While mobilizing about 25,000 riot police, the government of President Chon Tu-hwan also put 30 dissident leaders including the nations two best-known politicians -- Kim Tae-chung and Kim Yong-sam -- under house arrest.

About 100 NKDP protesters, including party president Yi Min-u, clashed with riot police shortly before noon as they tried to take to the streets, carrying balloons and S. Korean national flags, the sources said. It was also reported that police fired tear gas into a group of 150 Buddhist priests who attempted to gather at a temple in the capital city. The national police also blocked some 300 students of Yonsei University who headed for the park.

YI MIN-U PRESENTS POLITICAL TIMETABLE

SK030111 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 3 Mar 87 p 2

[Text] Yi Min-u, president of the main opposition New Korea Democratic Party, yesterday presented his own political timetable for the change of government slated for next February, calling for the holding of his party-proposed plebiscite to choose the type of next government sometime between May and June.

He suggested that the general elections be held this fall under a new National Assembly Election Law to ensure a fair and just election, the result of which would be accepted by both winners and losers.

"The parties are required to begin negotiations on how to revise the election law immediately after the Assembly passes a constitutional amendment based on the outcome of the national referendum," he said.

The presidential election will be conducted in November after the parliamentary poll.

The NDP president's schedule for political events required for the projected transfer of power is premised on the implementation of a government system led by the president to be elected by a direct and popular vote by the NDP.

His election schedule also differs from that of Kim Yong-sam and Kim Tae-chung, who favor the simultaneous holding of the presidential and parliamentary elections.

Yi claimed that the projected change of government will be implemented smoothly under his political timetable.

In a meeting with reporters at his house in Samyang-dong, northern Seoul, Yi also said that the government and the ruling party should take measures for democratic reform, accepting the seven-point conditions he set forth on Dec. 24, last year.

He said that his terms "can never be nullified by anyone." He withdrew them in January, yielding to pressure by Kim-Yong-sam, who now leads the largest intra-party faction in the NDP.

"If the ruling camp had accepted my overture immediately, today's difficult situation would not have taken place," he claimed.

NKDP STAGES RALLIES TO REVAMP LOCAL CHAPTERS

SK030107 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 3 Mar 87 p 1

[Text] The major opposition New Korea Democratic Party yesterday started a series of rallies to revamp its local chapters designed to shake up its organizations in preparation for the party national convention scheduled for May.

During the month-long series of local chapter reorganization rallies, the NKDP seeks to gain popular support for its cause of direct presidential elections. Rival intraparty factions are also geared up to take an advantageous position on the occasion of the national convention, in which Kim Yong-sam and some leaders of minor factions might compete for the party presidency.

At a rally of the party's Songbuk, in northern Seoul, district chapter, rival factions disclosed their differences over the strategy for constitutional revision.

It forecast further disputes on the issue and also on the way to revamp the party leadership at the May national convention.

In the rally, party president Yi Min-u urged the ruling party to accept his seven-point democratization proposal, which includes fair election system and political neutrality of government officials.

In a speech, he also called for a meeting between President Chon Tu-hwan, Kim Yong-sam and Kim Tae-chung.

Meanwhile, Kim Tae-chung proposed in a taped speech formation of a "pannational cabinet," which he stated would decide on the form of next government and conduct constitutional revision through national referendums.

Party adviser Kim Yong-sam suggested that the Constitution be changed before July and that presidential and general elections be held in November.

The two Kims, de facto leaders of the opposition party, proposed meeting with President Chon.

The rally, held at a theater and attended by some 800 party members, reelected Rep. Yi Chol as chairman of the local chapter.

The NKDP plans to hold some 60 similar rallies across the country this month.

NEW PARTY SUPPORTS DIRECT PRESIDENTIAL SYSTEM

SK030059 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 3 Mar 87 p 2

[Text] A new political party, named the "Third Generation Party," was founded yesterday by Han Yong-su, former opposition lawmaker, and his supporters in an inaugural convention.

Some 200 convention delegates elected Han, former chief policy-maker of the Democratic Korea Party which was the largest opposition party from 1981-1985, as party president.

Upon being elected to head the party, Han asked party members to "make every effort for the genuine democratic reform of the nation as a leading progressive force of the nation which will speak for the majority of the people of the new era yearning to see changes."

The party adopted direct national independence, free democracy and national unification as its platform. It demanded a constitutional amendment for the direct presidential government system based on the direct election of the president.

EDITORIAL LAUDS CHON'S LEADERSHIP

SK030115 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 3 Mar 87 p 8

[Editorial: "After Six Eventful Years"]

[Text] Today, the sixth anniversary of President Chon Tu-hwan's inauguration, finds the Republic of Korea more stable and secure, more liberalized and progressive, and more confident and upbeat in all facets of its national life.

Some knotty problems continue to beset and burden the country, despite the great strides made during the past six years to clear them up. But we no longer feel daunted, we are reassured of our own ability and readiness to cope with difficulties better now than ever before.

The fifth Republic, launched under the leadership of President Chon, called for nothing less than the same enlightened outlook, open and straight approach and dynamic caliber of the man who set himself to perform the trying task of steering the country through troubled waters at a most critical time.

As the man responsible for seeing our fledgling democracy through a crucial transition he combines flexibility and eclecticism with resoluteness and principle to embrace the diverse and competing needs of a young nation reaching out for self-reliance and maturity.

The administration of President Chon has had success in the sphere of political development. Within the constraints imposed on him by the rigid security-defense requirements of the Korean peninsula, he undertook a series of liberalization programs and democratic reforms.

The oppressive decades-old curfew was lifted and emergency legislation introduced by the previous government was abrogated. All but a few blacklisted politicians were allowed to resume normal political activity. Free and honest voting, ensured by the present administration, allowed the opposition a very strong showing in the last parliamentary election.

By far the most encouraging phenomenon is Chon's commitment to an orderly and peaceful transfer of power, something that has never taken place in this country. Repeatedly he has gone on record as saying that he will step down when his 7-year term of office expires early next year.

It is especially encouraging that President Chon has decided to break the vicious cycle of violent change of government resulting from an incumbent leader's attempt to prolong his rule by illegitimate means. There is no doubt that he means it when he promises to set the precedent of constitutional transition for revitalizing the cause of democracy and the rule of law of the Republic.

It is now the time for all political forces, both his allies and opponents, to join in maintaining an environment conducive to realizing his aim of shifting government control without a hitch. This is necessary and desirable for the President himself and for his fellow countrymen.

Political development has been coupled with significant growth in the nation's stature and prestige, befitting its vigorous economy and progress along the road toward an equitable welfare society.

In the last six years Korea has forged ahead, moving rapidly toward advanced nationhood at the forefront of the newly industrializing countries in the face of a worldwide economic slowdown. Last year our international balance of payments was in the black for the first time.

An increasing trade surplus reflects Korea's diversified commercial relations, and the sophistication in the quality of our products. It is one result of Korea's overall diplomatic ties being expanded and strengthened in all parts of the world.

President Chon's energetic summit exchanges with friendly governments have enhanced the status of Korea. He visited North America, Southeast Asia, Africa, Europe and Japan to widen our diplomatic horizons. Our taller stature, backed by firmer defense preparedness and a viable economy, enables us to deal with north Korea effectively for the eventual goal of peaceful reunification of the peninsula."

The resounding success of the 1986 Asiad in Seoul bodes well for an equally successful Olympic Games here in 1988. The recognition given this capital city and the arduous preparations being made will consummate the steady yet vibrant nation building undertaken throughout the Chon administration.

As with the six years gone by, the coming year will be devoted to laying solid groundwork for a free, prosperous nation. Sustained stability, cohesion and integrity of the state are essential to help complete this paramount task for the good of the Republic.

'PANGPAE 87' DEFENSIVE EXERCISES HELD 28 FEB

SK272357 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 28 Feb 87 p 3

[Text] Military and police personnel, along with reserve corps members conducted early this morning joint training exercises designed to be prepared against provocations and acts of terrorism that might be attempted by North Korean guerrillas at major facilities in the capital city and its vicinity.

Major events of the defensive exercise, dubbed "Pangpae (Shield) '87," were staged at Kimpo International Airport, the KBS building and a check point in Tobong-ku, northern Seoul, for three hours between 1 a.m. and 4 a.m.

The capital defensive training operations have been conducted annually under the command of the Army "Pangpae Unit" focusing on anti-guerrilla and anti-terrorism maneuvers.

In one scenario, a number of simulated North Korean guerrillas penetrate Kimpo airport buildings and runways in a plot to seize the airport and paralyze international flight service.

Another group of simulated North Korean infiltrators, armed with various combat gear and bombs, attempt to occupy and control the state-run broadcasting firm, KBS, at the same time.

The simulated North Korean commando forces were among those who were airdropped by planes.

PEACE DAM GROUND-BREAKING CEREMONY HELD

SK280706 Seoul YONHAP in English 0545 GMT 28 Feb 87

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 28 (YONHAP) -- South Korea Saturday broke ground on construction of the "Peace Dam" on a northern tributary of the Han River just south of the demilitarized zone separating the two Koreas.

Attending the ground-breaking ceremony were 700 people, including Prime Minister No Sin-yong, Construction Minister Yi Kyu-hyo and Chong Su-chang, chairman of the national committee for the promotion of the dam construction.

The Peace Dam is being built to counter the security threat posed by Pyongyang's huge Mt. Kumgang Dam project.

Construction on the Mt. Kumgang Dam began in late October at a site just 10 kilometers north of the demilitarized zone. If completed, it will be one of the largest dams on the peninsula, capable of storing up to 20 billion metric tons of water.

South Korean experts believe that if the dam were to collapse at full storage capacity, either accidentally or otherwise, the impact on South Korea would be similar to that created by a nuclear explosion, with torrents of water inundating the central region of the peninsula, including the metropolitan Seoul area.

The Peace Dam, which would hold back of flood of water released by the Mt. Kumgang Dam, is expected to be built at a cost of 600 billion won (about 700 million U.S. dollars: one dollar is worth about 855 won) over a nine- or ten-year period, the Construction Ministry said.

According to the ministry's timetable, the first stage of the dam construction project will be completed by late May of next year, and the second stage will be carried out in accordance with progress made by North Korea in building the Mt. Kumgang Dam.

The first stage, which will cost an estimated 170 billion won, has been planned to protect Seoul during the Olympic period. Seoul will host the 1988 Summer Olympics.

Government funds and citizen donations will contribute 30 billion won and 48.2 billion won, respectively, this year on construction of the "Peace Dam."

The initial phase will be undertaken by the Industrial Sites and Water Resources Development Corp.

Prime Minister No Sin-yong said at the ground-breaking ceremony: "There is no alternative but to build a counter dam, the 'Peace Dam,' as we call it, to protect our lives and prosperity against the threat posed by North Korea's Mt. Kumgang Dam project. We once again urge Pyongyang to stop the dam construction and to respond sincerely to our demand for inter-Korean dialogue and joint-investigation into water resources so that South and North Korea can jointly utilize the water resources."

He also said that the government will make its best efforts to build the "Peace Dam" flawlessly in order to protect South Koreans' lives and prosperity.

Meanwhile, in a report on the dam's progress, Lee said: "Since we learned about North Korea's Mt. Kumgang Dam construction project, we have urged Pyongyang to stop construction several times. But since we have received no answer from them, we have no alternative but to construct a counter dam, the 'Peace Dam'."

The project will be directed by the committee for the promotion of the Peace Dam, led by the prime minister. When completed, the dam will be capable of coping with the threat posed by North Korea.

CORRESPONDENT ON U.S. CALL FOR WON APPRECIATION

SK280006 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 28 Feb 87 p 1

[By KOREA TIMES correspondent Kim Pyong-mu]

[Text] WASHINGTON — The United States renewed its demand on the Korean government for the appreciation of the won against the U.S. dollar and for the opening of Korean markets.

The U.S. government conveyed its demand on the issues to Deputy Premier and Economic Planning Minister Kim Man-che who is now visiting here to attend a symposium of the World Bank and International Monetary Fund (IMF).

Kim met with U.S. Trade Representative Clayton Yeutter and Treasury Secretary James A. Baker III Friday (Feb. 26) to discuss outstanding trade and economic issues between Korea and the United States.

The issues included the won appreciation against the greenback to rectify the mounting U.S. trade deficit with Korea, the exportation of U.S. beef to Korea and the sale of U.S. cigarettes in the Korean cigarette market.

Even though the contents of the meeting were not disclosed, U.S. Treasury Secretary Baker reportedly called upon the Korean government to cooperate for the revaluation of the won against the U.S. dollar.

In return, Deputy Prime Minister Kim told him that the current Korean foreign exchange policy based on a basket system was most appropriate, citing Korea's huge foreign debt and burden of defense expenditures.

However, he said that the parity rate of won versus U.S. dollar is an issue for the two countries to continue to work together for its solution.

During the meeting between Baker and Kim, the former briefed the latter on the outcome of a meeting of the so-called Big-6 which was held in Paris Feb. 21-22.

With regard to the opening of the Korean banking market, Baker also called upon Kim to allow foreign banks operating in Korea to handle more won currency and to increase their branch offices.

In the meantime, U.S. Trade Representative Yeutter said in a meeting with Kim that his government understands the difficulties the Korean Government faces for the importation of U.S. beef, one of the major trade issues between the two countries.

He assured Kim that the USTR [U.S. Trade Representative] would neither mobilize Section 301 nor lodge a petition with the GATT over the issue for the time being until cattle prices in Korea are stabilized.

Yeutter also took issue with the poor sales of U.S. cigarettes in the Korean cigarette market, saying that the share of U.S. cigarettes in the Korean market is far below the 1 percent level.

The Korean government liberalized the import of foreign cigarettes on Sept. 1 last year and assured the United States of a 1 percent share of U.S. cigarettes in the Korean cigarette market.

Deputy Prime Minister Kim told Yeutter that he would make efforts to increase the number of retail stores for foreign cigarettes and ease restrictions on their sales.

STRICT LEGISLATION SOUGHT TO PREVENT AIDS SPREAD

SKO20538 Seoul YONHAP in English 0523 GMT 2 Mar 87

[Text] Seoul, March 2 (YONHAP) -- The Korean Government is considering stringent legislation to prevent the spread of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrom (AIDS), the Health and Social Affairs Ministry reported Monday.

An inter-governmental committee comprising officials from related ministries and medical experts will be formed this month to effectively control AIDS, which has been called the "curse of the modern age," a ministry official said.

Last month, the government officially designated AIDS as a legal epidemic, following the first report of an AIDS-related death in Korea, a Korean man, who returned from Africa, died last month after apparently contracting the deadly virus in a blood transfusion in Africa.

A foreign dispatch reported recently that four Korean residents in Los Angeles died of AIDS.

In view of these recent fatalities, there is a high possibility that AIDS could spread far and wide in Korea unless basic measures are taken to halt the disease, the official said.

In a related development, the ministry plans to require foreigners coming to Korea for entertainment or long-term employment to show AIDS anti-body test certificates issued by Korean consulates overseas. Foreign tourists staying in Korea for a short time will not be subject to the compulsory regulation, however, the official said.

All employees in public health-related industries in Korea's five major cities will be required to regularly receive AIDS anti-body tests.

The tests are now given to women serving foreign servicemen stationed in Korea.

Under the ministry's plan, people employed at nightclubs, standbars, room salons and other entertainment establishments will be encouraged to take regular blood tests for the AIDS virus.

The proposed law would contain provisions stipulating that steps be taken by the central and provincial governments to prevent and control AIDS and that those who spread the disease or neglect to report AIDS virus carriers be punished, the official said.

Meanwhile, the anti-AIDS committee will be in charge of providing citizens with accurate information about how to protect themselves against AIDS, improving cooperation with medical and other organizations to detect virus carriers at an early date and enhancing epidemiological research against the disease, the official added.

At present, there is no reported case of an AIDS sufferer in Korea although five persons have tested positive in the blood tests, according to a recent ministry report.

BRIEFS

PRESIDENT RECEIVES ENVOYS — Seoul, Feb. 23 (YONHAP) — Korean President Chon Tu-hwan Monday received credentials from three incoming foreign ambassadors to Korea at Chongwadae, the presidential mansion here. The three diplomats are Yunus Guzel of Turkey, Hans Peter Erismann of Switzerland and Ricardo Galan Mendez of Mexico. Chon also conferred credentials on nine new Korean ambassadors to foreign countries, including Choe Chong-ik (Panama) and Tak Na-hyon (Pakistan), as well as a consul general to Cairo. [Text] [Seoul YONHAP in English 0202 GMT 23 Feb 87 SK]

HUN SEN SPEAKS AT CLOSE OF AGRICULTURE CONFERENCE

BK021049 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 2 Mar 87

[Text] The eighth national conference to sum up agricultural achievements ended on the afternoon of 28 February in the presence of Comrade Hun Sen, member of the KPRP Central Committee Political Bureau and chairman of the Council of Ministers, after five days of hard work at the Chamka Dong Institute of Agronomy. The participants were very proud of the results in agricultural work in 1986. They noted that although the production plan in that year was not fulfilled, both cultivated area and yield exceeded that of the year before. Moreover, the peasants were highly motivated in the intensive farming of new rice seeds and increasing the frequency of cropping. Delegations from provinces and cities attending the conference took turns giving reports in which they pointed out weaknesses and strengths encountered in the past and were unanimous in supporting the plan to be carried out in 1987 with its target of planting crops on 1.93 million hectares, including 160,000 hectares of dry-season rice and 70,000 hectares of extraseasonal crops.

Four provinces won the Council of Ministers banners. They are Kandal Province which was outstanding in the first plan; Kompong Chhang Province in the second plan; Takeo Province in the third plan; and Stung Treng Province in the fourth plan. Four other units were awarded the banners of the Agriculture Ministry. They are: the Forestry and Wildlife Department, the Agronomy Department, the Farm Machine Department, and the Prek Leap Agricultural High School.

Speaking at the closing session, Comrade Hun Sen urged all participants to work hard to correct past shortcomings and continue to develop good experiences to help bring success to the implementation of the 1987 plan. At the same time, he said all concerned must pay attention to expanding the cultivated areas, reclaiming waste lands, multiplying cropping seasons, increasing yield through the use of short-term seeds, repairing existing irrigational networks in the localities and building more of them, especially small irrigation systems which do not require advanced technical know-how and are based on the principle of joint venture between the state and the people. For the immediate future, it is imperative to mobilize all means to accelerate the purchase of foodstuffs, collection of patriotic contributions, continuation of the dry-season rice growing, and early plowing of land so that the plan will be crowned with success.

VOK COMMENTS ON SHEVARDNADZE ASIA-PACIFIC TOUR

BK021057 (Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian 0500 GMT 2 Mar 87

[Political commentary: "Visit of the Soviet Foreign Minister"]

[Text] Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze is to pay a visit to Thailand this Monday [2 March] after which he will go to Australia, Indonesia, Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia. Observers have speculated that this visit might be related to the search for an end to the war in Cambodia. The Voice of the Khmer would like to welcome this visit if Mr Shevardnadze is truly sincere about finding a solution to the crisis in Cambodia.

This visit is part of a series of first visits by high-ranking Soviet officials to a number of countries in Southeast Asia. The Voice of the Khmer has repeatedly stated that the Soviets cannot support their corrupt and prodigal henchmen's continuing their occupation of Cambodia for very long.

The Soviet aid to Vietnam in its aggression against Cambodia clearly shows the Cambodian people that their harsh oppression by the Vietnamese occupiers can certainly be attributed in large part to the Soviet Union. The Soviet Union must be held irrefutably responsible for the havoc in Cambodia. However, should Shevardnadze's visit succeed in bringing about a solution to the Cambodian problem, as a number of observers have speculated, we would like to welcome it most heartily even though we can foresee that the Cambodian people's struggle will surely triumph in the end.

The Soviet Union is certainly aware that Vietnam can never win its war of aggression. Even the Vietnamese leaders themselves have admitted that they cannot win the Cambodian war. At the same time, foreign political observers and diplomats who have followed the situation in Cambodia have unequivocally stressed that the Cambodian coalition government formed by the three Cambodian groups now enjoys growing support from the Cambodian people. This clearly shows that the Vietnamese aggressors will be defeated in the not too distant future.

Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze must certainly understand the defeat of his Vietnamese sycophant. He also must clearly see that the best way out for the Soviet Union is to try hard to find a political settlement for the conflict in Cambodia. The Soviet Union must clearly grasp the fact that it has been shamed along with Vietnam and has brought misery to the Soviet people because their leaders oppressively confiscated their property to finance Vietnam's meaningless war in Cambodia. The Soviet Union is well aware that, in helping Vietnam occupy Cambodia, it has to spend 97 times more money than the countries friendly to the CGDK have spent on the CGDK.

We would like once again to stress our opinion that there is only one way to wipe out the shame of the Soviet Union and Vietnam: to agree to settle the Cambodian problem peacefully. It is not difficult for the Soviet Union and Vietnam to do so. They merely have to comply with the UN resolution, which calls for Vietnam to withdraw all its troops from Cambodia and simply mind its own business -- nothing complicated. The Soviet Union and Vietnam know very well by now that all Cambodians, including the patriots in the ranks of the CGDK and the patriots in the Army of Mr Heng Samrin as well as all civil servants and people, are cooperating closely in stepping up more powerful attacks against the Vietnamese warmongers so that they will be swept out of Cambodia in the near future.

VODK COMMENTARY VIEWS REFUGEE PROBLEM IN THAILAND

BK010505 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 28 Feb 87

[Station commentary: "Only After Vietnam Withdraws All Its Aggressive Troops From Cambodia Can the Cambodian Refugee Problem Be Solved"]

[Text] The presence of many Cambodian refugees in Thailand constitutes a heavy burden for the international community, especially Thailand which has to directly bear the economic, financial, and security burden. Like the rest of the international community, Thailand wants to solve this refugee problem as soon as possible, but it cannot because hundreds of thousands of Vietnamese soldiers continue to occupy Cambodia.

On 25 February, while receiving the special envoy of the United Nations in charge of the Cambodian refugee problem, Thai Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon said that the Cambodian refugee problem cannot be solved if Vietnam refuses to withdraw all its aggressive forces from Cambodia.

This remark by the Thai prime minister is most correct. The presence of so many Cambodian refugees in Thailand has been caused by the Vietnamese aggression against and occupation of Cambodia. If hundreds of thousands of Vietnamese troops continue to occupy Cambodia there is no way to solve the Cambodian refugee problem, for the Cambodian people living in the devilish claws of the Vietnamese have suffered so much from Vietnamese oppression, torture, and arbitrary massacre through every cruel conceivable method. The Vietnamese rob the people of their property and rice, starve them to death, falsely charge, arrest, and incarcerate them, assign their agents to poison food and water to kill Cambodians, and send Cambodians to serve their war of aggression in battlefields and malarial regions in western Cambodia, causing scores of Cambodians to perish most miserably. The Cambodian people living in the zone temporarily occupied by the Vietnamese are therefore suffering unprecedented misery.

For this reason, men and women, young and old alike have fled their home and land and have lived in the jungle and mountainous areas along the Cambodian-Thai border or have crossed the border into sanctuaries on Thai territory. Therefore, so long as hundreds of thousands of Vietnamese soldiers remain in Cambodia and continue to massacre the Cambodian people, no one will be able to solve the Cambodian refugee problem as noted in the above-mentioned remark of the Thai prime minister. On the contrary, this problem will become even more serious, and it cannot be solved by handing the Cambodians over to the Vietnamese puppet regime in Phnom Penh as proposed by the Vietnamese and their puppets. In fleeing their homeland with so much difficulty, the Cambodian refugees tried to avoid being massacred by the Vietnamese butchers and even though they had reached the border and Thai territory, they were not yet safe as the Vietnamese aggressors savagely fired artillery barrages on these innocent civilian refugees. For this reason, sending them back into the Vietnamese claws is tantamount to send them to their deaths.

Therefore, in order to solve the Cambodian refugee problem in Thailand, as well as to end the suffering and misery of the entire Cambodian people, the international community must continue to bring pressure, and by that we mean greater pressure, to bear on Vietnam to force it to withdraw all its aggressive forces from Cambodia and allow the Cambodian people to decide their own destiny. Only after the Vietnamese forces are completely withdrawn from Cambodia and after there is no more threat of being slaughtered by Vietnamese troops can the Cambodian people live and work in their own country again and can the Cambodian refugees in Thailand as well as those in other countries return to their homeland.

COOPERATION DOCUMENTS SIGNED WITH HUNGARY

BK021049 Vientiane KPL in English 0908 GMT 2 Mar 87

[Text] Vientiane, March 2 (KPL) -- The Lao PDR and the Hungarian People's Republic [HPR], have decided to promote their bilateral economic cooperation in the coming years. The decision was taken at the 9th session of the Lao-Hungarian Inter-governmental Commission for Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation which was closed here yesterday.

Following the session, the two sides signed a protocol on economic cooperation, the minutes of the meeting on scientific and technical cooperation and on the coordination of planning and a document on commercial exchange. The HPR will help fulfill the construction of a poultry farm in Vientiane which can produce 35,000 chickens a week. It will also help construct a bridge on route No 18 in southern Champassak Province.

Under these documents, the two sides will also coordinate their long-term cooperation plans on geological survey, industrial processing and tropical agro-plantation.

Signatories to the documents were Sali Vongkhamsao, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, chairman of the State Planning Committee and chairman of the Lao-Hungarian Inter-governmental Commission for Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation, and Lajos Csenegi, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and chairman of the Hungarian section of the joint commission. Hungarian Ambassador Laszlo Rosta was also present at the signing ceremony.

Delegation Departs 2 Mar

BK021055 Vientiane KPL in English 0905 GMT 2 Mar 87

[Text] Vientiane, March 2 (KPL) -- Nouhak Phoumsavan, Politburo member of the KPRP CC and chairman of the Council of Ministers, received here yesterday a delegation of the Hungarian-Lao Inter-governmental Commission for Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation led by its chairman, Lajos Csenegi, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Hungarian People's Republic.

Under discussion are issues on bilateral economic and scientific cooperation. The sides expressed their satisfaction at the development of the fraternal friendship and cooperation between the parties, governments and peoples of the two countries.

Also present at the meeting were Sali Vongkhamsao, Politburo member of the KPRP CC, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, chairman of the State Planning Committee and chairman of the Lao-Hungarian Inter-governmental Commission, and Laszlo Rosta, Hungarian ambassador to the Lao PDR.

The Hungarian delegation left here today following a five-day working visit. It took part in the 9th session of the Joint Commission for Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation which closed here yesterday.

SHEVARDNADZE CALLS ON PREM, EXTENDS INVITATION

BK021303 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 1200 GMT 2 Mar 87

[Text] After Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze paid a courtesy call on Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon at Government House at 1430 today, spokesman of the Prime Minister's Office Michai Wirawaithaya told reporters that it was the first time a Soviet foreign minister ever came to visit Thailand. The prime minister expressed thanks for the visit since our country is small and poor. It is our highest honor that a superpower like the Soviet Union has come to visit. Although it is not an official visit, Shevardnadze held talks with the Thai Foreign Ministry on various issues. The Soviet foreign minister informed the premier that the talks proceeded well because relations between Thailand and the USSR are good, and there is potential for more cooperation, especially in the social, economic, cultural, and political fields. There are some differences of views, but it is believed that solutions can be found.

During the meeting, the prime minister thanked the Soviet foreign minister for bringing good wishes from Soviet Communist Party Secretary General Gorbachev and from other Soviet leaders to the prime minister. He reiterated that Thailand is a small and poor country, so it is very necessary for peace to exist in this region so that Thailand can use its natural resources to develop and to raise the living standard of its population.

The Thai foreign minister accepted the invitation to visit the USSR, and the USSR also invited the prime minister to pay a visit. The prime minister expressed thanks for the invitation and said that he will visit if he has a chance.

The government spokesman said that during the meeting today, there was no detailed discussion on the Afghan and Cambodian issues. The talks touched on a wide range of issues. Detailed talks will be held with the Foreign Ministry.

Meets With Sitthi

BK021301 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 1200 GMT 2 Mar 87

[Text] Somphan Kokilanon, deputy director general of the Foreign Ministry Information Department, has reported on today's meeting between Foreign Minister Air Chief Marshal Sitthi Sawetsila and visiting Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze. According to Somphan, they exchanged views on Thai-Soviet relations and international issues and expressed a desire to strengthen bilateral trade and economic cooperation. The Soviet foreign minister invited Sitthi to visit the Soviet Union 10-14 May. The Thai foreign minister informed his Soviet counterpart that a delegation of Thai businessmen seeking trade with the Soviet Union will accompany him during the visit.

According to Somphan, the two foreign ministers discussed solutions to the Afghanistan and Cambodian problems and felt that the favorable development of the Afghanistan problem could be adopted and applied to the Cambodian problem. They agreed in principle on the withdrawal of foreign soldiers from Cambodia, reconciliation among Cambodians, and the Cambodian people's self-determination. The Thai foreign minister said Thailand and ASEAN countries seek no advantage from Cambodia; they only want to see an independent and neutral Cambodia posing no threat to other countries. The Soviet Union, because it is located in Asia and the Pacific, has a role to play in joining with other parties and ASEAN to create peace in this region.

The Thai foreign minister explained that Thailand's policy is to be a friend to all countries, including superpowers like the Soviet Union, China, and the United States. He also told the Soviet foreign minister that Thailand is improving its relations with Laos by inviting Souban Salitthilat, the Lao deputy foreign minister, to visit Thailand in late March. He said good Thai-Lao relations will contribute to peace in the region.

Paper Reports on Stopover

BK030021 Bangkok THE NATION in English 3 Mar 87 pp 1, 2

[Text] Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze hinted yesterday that the timetable for the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan may serve as a model for ending the Vietnamese occupation of Kampuchea.

Shevardnadze told reporters at the end of his brief stopover in Bangkok that there should be a "new approach" in dealing with the Kampuchean conflict. But added that some aspects of the on-going negotiations on the Afghan problem could be applied to the conflict in Kampuchea.

Somphan Kokilanon, the acting spokesman of the Foreign Ministry said the Soviet foreign minister indicated during his talks with Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila that the pending withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan, as asked by Kabul, could be used as a model for the withdrawal of the Vietnamese troops from Kampuchea.

An official of the Foreign Ministry who was present at the talks told THE NATION that there is some possibility that the Soviet Union would urge the Heng Samrin government to come up with the same initiative by setting up a timetable for the Vietnamese troops to withdraw.

In a press conference at the Foreign Ministry, Shevardnadze said through an interpreter that he had had an "interesting, substantive and thought-provoking" dialogue with Sitthi and his aides during the two-hour lunch.

The Soviet foreign minister said both sides share common views and mutual understanding on various global issues, such as questions of peace, disarmament, abolition of nuclear weapons, keeping outer space peaceful and peaceful settlement of regional conflicts, including that of Kampuchea.

On the Kampuchean problem, Arun Phanuphong, the prime minister's adviser who also attended the meeting, said Moscow has made clear that the conflict could be solved through a peaceful political solution. "The Soviet Union has shown keen interest in seeking a political solution to this problem," he said.

He said the Soviet Union is a global power with a global interest and at present has given more emphasis on the region.

The Soviet Union, Shevardnadze said, wanted to promote and strengthen the bilateral relations in all fields with Thailand. "We shall build our relations on mutual respect and advantage," Shevardnadze said.

He said there are some differences between the two countries, which will be discussed through future dialogues.

Both the Soviet Union and Thailand agreed on the principle of foreign troops withdrawal from Kampuchea, concept of national reconciliation, the right to self-determination and independence, according to Somphan.

Somphan said Sitthi stressed that the Kampuchean problem should be solved to the effect that Kampuchea will be independent, neutral and there will be no foreign interference after the solution to the problem is achieved.

"ASEAN and Thailand are more than willing to cooperate with the Soviet Union to revitalize Kampuchea and Vietnam," he said.

Shevardnadze, the first Soviet foreign minister to visit Thailand, came to Bangkok before beginning a tour of Australia, Indonesia and the three Indochinese countries. He also had a brief meeting with Prem.

Government spokesman Michai Wirawaithaya told reporters that Prem told Shevardnadze that Thai-Soviet ties have a long history.

"Thailand is a small and poor country and wants to see peace and stability in the region," Michai quoted Prem as saying.

Somphan said that both sides touched on a broad agenda which will be discussed in detail in the upcoming visit to Moscow in May by Sitthi. "Sitthi reiterated to the Soviet Union that Moscow can persuade Vietnam to negotiate (over Kampuchea) with some degree of reasonableness," he said.

Asked to elaborate on the Soviets' overture that the settlement of the Afghan problem could be used to solve the Kampuchea conflict, Somphan said both countries would welcome either direct or indirect talks between the conflicting parties to end the Kampuchea problem.

Sitthi also informed Shevardnadze on the on-going efforts to improve bilateral ties between Thailand and Laos.

Somphan described the working lunch as "cordial" with intermittent jokes. "It was an exchange of views. There was no hue and cry. It was very fruitful for both sides."

Afghanistan Discussed

BK020931 Hong Kong AFP in English 1017 GMT 2 Mar 87

[Text] Bangkok, March 2 (AFP) -- The Soviet Union is close to agreeing to a time frame for withdrawing its troops from Afghanistan, and the process could serve as a model for resolving the Cambodian problem, Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze was quoted as saying here Monday.

Mr. Shevardnadze, the first Soviet foreign minister to visit Thailand, made the remarks in talks with his Thai counterpart Sitthi Sawetsila after arriving here Monday on the first leg of an Asian tour, a Thai Foreign Ministry spokesman said.

He told Mr. Sitthi that Moscow was close to setting a time frame with the Kabul government for the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan.

The withdrawal might take 22 months, Mr. Shevardnadze was quoted as saying, and indirect negotiations to resolve the Afghanistan issue might serve as a model for a peaceful settlement of the Cambodian problem. He did not specify in what way the Afghanistan experience could serve as a model for Cambodia, and told reporters that he had brought no new initiative on that issue. "We will continue to discuss problems related to a political settlement of that problem," Mr. Shevardnadze said.

Mr. Sitthi "expressed the hope" that "the Soviet Union would and could persuade Vietnam to come to the negotiating table," the Foreign Ministry spokesman said. The Thai spokesmen said the talks here were an "exchange of views" and not a negotiation.

Mr. Shevardnadze's Asian swing is also to take him to Indonesia, Australia, Soviet allies Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos, and India. Indonesia and Thailand are the two leading countries in non-communist Southeast Asia's opposition to the eight-year-old Vietnamese occupation of Cambodia.

He told Mr. Sitthi that national reconciliation and the withdrawal of foreign troops were two points Thailand and the Soviet Union agreed on in relation to Cambodia.

Soviet troops have occupied Afghanistan since 1979, while Vietnamese troops have been in Cambodia since toppling the Khmer Rouge regime and installing a client government in 1979.

The spokesmen said the ministers acknowledged that the two nations differed over who to recognize as the legitimate government of Cambodia. The Soviet Union recognizes the Vietnamese-backed Heng Samrin regime in Phnom Penh while Thailand, like the United Nations, views the Cambodian resistance Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea (CGDK) as the legitimate government.

Mr. Shevardnadze was also to hold talks with Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon during his five-hour stay, which was not designated as an official visit. He was to leave later Monday for Canberra.

Mr. Shevardnadze arrived here on the same day as Malaysian Foreign Minister Datuk Rais Yatim and Indian Minister of State for External Affairs (Deputy Foreign Minister) Natwar Singh, who are due to discuss Cambodia in separate meetings with Mr. Sitthi.

The three foreign officials' arrivals here Monday follow reports of a joint Soviet-Indian initiative to solve the eight-year long stalemate in Cambodia, which have sparked a flurry of diplomatic activity in the region.

Mr. Rais said last week that the non-communist Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) needed to reappraise its common stand on Cambodia in the light of "new flexibility" from Hanoi. Mr. Rais said Mr. Singh had conveyed this message to him in New Delhi last month.

ASEAN groups Thailand, Malaysia and Indonesia with Singapore, Brunei and the Philippines. Some 50,000 Chinese-armed resistance guerrillas are battling an estimated 140,000 Vietnamese troops in Cambodia.

MALAYSIAN FOREIGN MINISTER BEGINS 2-DAY VISIT

BK030210 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in English 1500 GMT 2 Mar 87

[Text] Malaysian Foreign Minister Rais Yatim arrived in Bangkok today for talks with Thai prominent leaders on bilateral issues and other matters of mutual concern. After his arrival, Mr Yatim paid a courtesy call on Thai Prime Minister General Prem Tinsulanon and later called on Foreign Minister Air Chief Marshal Sitthi Savetsila at 1900 at the Foreign Ministry where he attended a dinner and a party in his honor. The Malaysian foreign minister will fly back to Kuala Lumpur tomorrow afternoon after consultations with Air Chief Marshal Sitthi.

OFFICIAL CRITICIZES MALAYSIAN BORDER VILLAGE

BK280155 Bangkok THE NATION in English 28 Feb 87 p 3

[Text] Deputy Interior Minister Sawai Phatthano was alarmed by what he described as "complete lawlessness" at a border trading village on the Malaysian side which he believes is a "serious threat to Thailand's national security."

Sawai visited the border village near Padang Besar on Thursday and told reporters afterward the place is an ideal hideout for criminals from both Malaysia and Thailand.

He said drug traffickers, arms smugglers, Thai Muslim separatists, and many other criminals are reportedly staying in this border village.

He said possession of unlicensed firearms and narcotics -- two extremely serious offences that are punishable by death in Malaysia -- are "normal things" in this village.

Malaysians entering and leaving the village have to undergo customs and immigration clearance by the Malaysian authorities although the village is within the Malaysian territory, Sawai said.

The problem of dual citizenship in the village is also serious, he added.

"As an MP (Democrat, Songkhla), I want the Thai Government to raise this issue with the Malaysian Government," Sawai said.

He plans to discuss this issue with Interior Minister Gen Prachuap Suntharangkun soon. "I think it's time for the Thai government to do something to solve the problem," he said.

He said the Thai Government must urge the Malaysian Government to clean up the village and enforce law there.

"If nothing is done to clean up the village, other border villages may also go bad like this one," he noted.

Sawai visited the village as part of an inspection trip to see the border wall erected by Malaysia following reports that part of the wall encroaches on the Thai territory. The "outlawed village" is about 90 kilometres south of the Thai southern province of Songkhla.

BORDER OFFICER DENIES VIETNAMESE HOLDING HILL

BK021117 Bangkok NAEQ NA in Thai 1 Mar 87 pp 1, 16

[Excerpt] Three Thai soldiers were killed and 20 others wounded in the one month of operations to drive Vietnamese soldiers out of the dense jungle along the Cambodian border, according to Colonel Phoemsak Phongsarot, chief of staff of the Suranari Force. Phoemsak said 3 Thai soldiers were killed and 10 more wounded on Thursday [26 February] by Vietnamese mortar shells when they tried to dislodge the intruders from O Bok pass in Ubon Ratchathani Province. Thai artillery was used against the intruders, whose casualties are unknown at this time. Phoemsak said most of the other Thai casualties were caused by land mines planted by the Vietnamese soldiers following an intelligence report specifying that a small group of Vietnamese soldiers was crossing back and forth 2 km deep into Thailand at O Bok pass and it was possible that they were not aware of the border line.

In an interview given to AP, Phoemsak denied the BANGKOK WORLD report that the Vietnamese have held a hill in the area and Thai F-5E's were being used to dislodge the intruders. [passage omitted]

ACM SAYS AIR FORCE MAY BUY WEAPONS FROM PRC

BK030141 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 3 Mar 87 pp 1, 3

[Text] Thailand may buy a large number of 37mm anti-aircraft guns from China soon to strengthen the defence of its airbases, Air Force Commander-in-Chief ACM [Air Chief Marshal] Praphan Thupatemi said yesterday.

Speaking at a press conference at the Air Force headquarters, ACM Praphan said the Air Force was interested in the Chinese 37mm anti-aircraft artillery because of its quality and affordable price.

The Air Force was studying whether it would be feasible to purchase the Chinese artillery, but "there is an 80 percent chance that we will buy them," he said. ACM Praphan said that, if purchased, the artillery would be deployed at the airbases in Takhli in the north and in the northeastern provinces of Nakhon Ratchasima, Ubon Ratchathani and Udon Thani to upgrade their defence capability.

If the deal was clinched, it would mark the first official purchase of arms from China. In the past, China delivered arms and ammunition to Thailand free of charge as a gesture of support for the Thai stand against the presence of Vietnamese troops in Kampuchea.

Commenting on China's offer to sell its F-7 jet fighters to Thailand, ACM Praphan said that "for the time being" the Air Force was not interested because it did not want supply problems which might arise if it had too many different types of aircraft from different countries.

"For the time being, we prefer to buy aircraft from the United States our close ally, rather than from any other country. But we may change this attitude in the future if necessary," said ACM Praphan.

ACM Praphan said the 12 F-16's purchased from the United States would be delivered to the Air Force in a batch of four in June, August and October next year.

He added that the F-16's would be kept in specially-built shelters equipped with sophisticated weapons systems. Construction of the shelters was under way in Nakhon Ratchasima at a cost of 20 million baht each, he said, adding that they were expected to be completed before the arrival of the aircraft.

He said the F-16 shelters would not be grouped together. Each would be equipped with anti-aircraft artillery and rockets. Other aircraft would also be assigned to protect them from air attacks.

Meanwhile, ACM Praphan said, the Air Force was also implementing a three-year modification programme launched last year to increase the capability of its current main-stay F-5 fighter-interceptors.

Under the 1,070-million-baht programme he said, special equipment such as navigation, target guidance, and warning systems would be added to the F-5's to increase their maneuverability, accuracy and survivability.

ACM Praphan said the Air Force had already completed the installation of special equipment on the F-5's based at Takhli, while modification work was still going on for its F-5's based in Nakhon Ratchasima.

He said the Air Force, like the other armed services, was faced with the problem of limited budget. However, the Air Force was able to channel up to 30 percent of its budget into programmes to develop its air capability, ACM Praphan said.

FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL ON LAO OFFICIAL'S VISIT

BK271430 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Thai GMT 27 Feb 87

[Statement by Somphan Kokilanon, deputy director general of the Information Department, at the Foreign Ministry on 27 February -- recorded]

1. On 9 February 1987, Khamphan Simmalavong, LPDR ambassador to Thailand, informed M.R. Thep Thewakun, director general of the Political Department, that the Lao side was proposing that a Lao delegation visit Thailand from 28 February to 3 March. On 17 February, the director general notified the Lao ambassador of Thailand's concurrence with the date of the visit which was confirmed by the ambassador himself.

2. There was a misleading report on this issue as a result of the interview given to the Thai and foreign mass media by an official of the Lao Embassy. On 26 February, the director general of the Political Department summoned the Lao ambassador for inquiry. The director general suggested that the Lao ambassador request that the BANGKOK POST correct the inaccurate report to the effect that the date for the visit of the Lao delegation from 28 February to 3 March was proposed by the Lao side. In this regard,, the Lao ambassador reaffirmed that the Lao side had proposed the date of the visit and agreed to order the Lao Embassy official who released such inaccurate news to rectify the inaccuracy with the BANGKOK POST.

The Foreign Ministry, in pursuance of the Thai Government's policies, has always adhered to the principle of releasing only factual news. It will never give false or distorted news.

After the Lao side has [word indistinct] visit to Thailand from 28 February to 3 March, on 24 February Lao Deputy Foreign Minister Souban Salitthilat informed the Thai ambassador in Vientiane that he was scheduled to attend a meeting in the Republic of Guyana from 3 to 17 March so he requested a postponement of his visit to Thailand to 24 to 27 March. The Foreign Ministry has already accepted the new date of his visit. The Lao side was asked to notify the Thai side urgently of the arrival and departure dates of the delegation so that the latter may make preparations for the reception and talks with the Lao delegation.

The Foreign Ministry wishes to add that in response to the LPDR Government's desire to improve relations and promote bilateral cooperation between Thailand and Laos, the Thai Government therefore sent a Thai delegation led by His Excellency Arun Phanuphong, advisor to the prime minister, to visit Vientiane from 27 to 29 November 1986 at the invitation of the Lao Government and has invited His Excellency Souban Salitthilat to lead a delegation to pay a return visit to Thailand so that both sides can hold consultations on bilateral relations. The Thai Foreign Ministry has never fixed the date for the Lao side to visit Thailand. The Lao delegation can visit Thailand at the time of its own convenience. The Thai Government is ready to welcome and hold talks with the Lao delegation in the interests of our two countries and peoples.

LAOS GETS NEW PATROL BOATS, PUSHES MARIJUANA GROWING

BK280145 Bangkok THE NATION in English 28 Feb 87 p 3

[Text] Moscow plans to supply 40 patrol boats to Laos to strengthen the vigil by Laotian troops along the Mekong River, a senior Thai naval officer said yesterday.

Captain Kasemsak Prommabut, commander of the Mekong Operation Unit in Nakhon Phanom, said some of the Soviet-made PBR [River Patrol Boat] patrol boats have been delivered to Laos recently.

With the procurement of a new fleet of patrol vessels from Moscow, Vientiane is expected to construct more patrol stations along the Mekong River, which serves as a natural frontier between Thailand and Laos. The Laotians now have 12 stations, each of which has one patrol boat, he said.

Kasemsak said the PBR vessels are equipped with guns which have a firing capability comparable to that of the Thai patrol units.

The Soviet Union reportedly agreed to provide the patrol boats to its Indochinese ally since last year. But it was still unknown as to when all the 40 boats will be delivered to Laos, he said.

Meanwhile, another naval officer in the border province of Loei cited an intelligence report as indicating that the Laotian Government is encouraging its people to grow marijuana as a new cash crop in the vast areas along the Mekong River.

Captain Sathapanaphong Wangkaeo, an officer attached to the Loei's Mekong Operation Unit, said the Laotian authorities have allegedly distributed a can of marijuana seeds to each Laotian family.

The officer expressed fear that Laotian marijuana would be smuggled into the Thai side as a kilogramme of cannabis could fetch about 600-800 baht in the Thai market.

Official Briefs Newsmen

BK020405 Bangkok Television Service in Thai 1300 GMT 1 Mar 87

[Text] Navy Secretary Rear Admiral Dilok Phattharakoson yesterday led some 50 reporters from provinces in the central region to visit the command headquarters of the Mekong River Patrol Operation Unit in Hakhon Phanom Province. The unit's area of operation covers 857 km of the Thai-Lao border from Chiang Khan District of Loei Province to Khong Chiam District of Ubon Ratchathani Province.

Unit commander Captain Kasemsak Phrommabut said during the briefing that Laos currently has approximately 66,800 regular troops and there are about 60,000 Vietnamese soldiers in the country. Both Laos and Vietnam are deploying their forces for suppression drives against the resistance groups during the upcoming dry season.

Laos has also strengthened its Air Force by building a new airfield in the Plain of Jars for its 27 MiG-21 aircraft. This new airfield is bigger than Wattai Airport in Vientiane.

Laos has deployed its troops along the Mekong River and on islets in the river and sent spies to Thailand -- disguised as refugees, Buddhist monks, and smugglers -- to assault the rightist leaders who are taking refuge here. More marijuana has been smuggled into Thailand because the plant can be grown legally in Laos, and this has increased the workload on the Mekong Operation Unit. However, there have been very few border skirmishes due to the improvement of political relations between the two countries at both the government and local levels.

After the briefing, reporters boarded the unit's patrol boats to inspect the Mekong River off Thakhek District of Laos' Khammouane Province.

USSR PROPOSES 40 SCIENCE JOINT VENTURES

BK280945 Bangkok BANGKOK WORLD in English 28 Feb 87 p 1

[Text] The Soviet Government has proposed joint ventures in some 40 science and technology projects, a House Committee chairman said.

Mr Charoen Khanthawong, chairman of the House Committee on Science, Technology and Energy, said the proposed joint ventures ranged from electricity production to tractor assembly, and exchange of scientists.

Details of the Soviet proposal were explained to the committee yesterday by Soviet Ambassador Valentin Kasatkin, Mr Charoen said.

The proposals were now being considered by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, he added.

Mr Charoen noted that the Soviet Union had been very successful in the use of radioactive rays to kill pests and insects feeding on vegetables and fruit.

LATE REPORT: 'BROAD' AGREEMENT WITH MALAYSIA

BK030811 Bangkok BANGKOK WORLD in English 3 Mar 87 p 32

[Excerpts] A broad economic agreement was reached this morning during a meeting between Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila and Malaysian Foreign Minister Datuk Rais Tatim at the Foreign Ministry.

Deputy Foreign Ministry spokesman Somphan Kokilano said more discussions will be held between Thai and Malaysian senior officials on the agreement to set up a joint commission to coordinate trade and economic, agriculture and fishing cooperation.

Mr. Somphan said that the agreement was reached during an hour-long meeting between ACM [Air Chief Marshal] Sitthi and Datuk Rais.

ACM Sitthi also proposed to Datuk Rais to help negotiate with other concerned Malaysian agencies to allow Thai fishermen to fish in the Malaysian exclusive zone, and Datuk Rais agreed to consider the Thai request.

Meanwhile, the deputy spokesman said the Malaysian foreign minister has proposed to ACM Sitthi for a deep sea fishing joint venture between the two countries.

The Thai side also asked the Malaysian authorities to relax the regulations on the transshipment of perishable goods from Thailand to Singapore through Malaysia because Malaysian officials were very strict on this issue.

However, the Malaysian side proposed a meeting between the committees in charge of this matter.

Ambassador attached to the Foreign Ministry Sombun Sa-ngiambut, who joined ACM Sitthi in his talks with Datuk Rais, said ACM Sitthi asked Malaysia through Datuk Rais to urgently consider Thailand's proposal for a joint Thai-Malaysian interest in the Dallas-based Triton Energy Corp's oil and gas concession rights in the Thai-Malaysian waters.

Mr Sombun said Thailand has long been trying to propose to interest Malaysia in Triton but so far there had been no response from Malaysia. [passage omitted]

Meanwhile, Mr Somphan said ACM Sitthi briefed Datuk Rais about his talks with Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze and that Indonesian Foreign Minister Mokhtar Kusumaatmaja called ACM Sitthi late last night to inform him about his discussion with Indian Deputy Foreign Minister Natwar Singh.

The deputy spokesman said ACM Sitthi today notified all ASEAN foreign ministers about his talks with Mr Shevardnadze through Thai embassies in those countries.

He said that there has been no breakthrough on the Kampuchean issue since the information received from Mr Mokhtar was a simple exchange of views between Mr Mokhtar and Mr Singh.

Both ACM Sitthi and Datuk Rais agreed that the issue should be left wide open to sound out opinion from other ASEAN ministers.

SOVIET FOREIGN MINISTER TO PAY OFFICIAL VISIT

OW021606 Hanoi VNA in English 1505 GMT 2 Mar 87

[Text] Hanoi VNA March 2 -- E.A. Shevardnadze, Political Bureau member of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union Central Committee and foreign minister of the USSR, will pay an official visit to Vietnam soon, as guest of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee and the government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, says a communique of the Vietnamese Foreign Ministry today.

TASS CITED ON SHEVARDNADZE VISIT TO BANGKOK

BK031030 Hanoi International Service in English 1000 GMT 3 Mar 87

[Text] According to the Soviet news agency TASS, Mr Eduard Shevardnadze, Political Bureau member of the CPSU Central Committee and foreign minister, stopped over in Bangkok on Monday [2 March] on his way to Australia.

Mr Shevardnadze met Thai Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon and Thai Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila. The two sides expressed their concern over the development of the Soviet-Thai relations in political, commercial, ethnic, and cultural fields. The Soviet side affirmed its unwavering policy of supporting all initiatives aimed at achieving a political solution to the regional situation through dialogue between two groups of countries in the region. The Thai side highly valued the Soviet Union's efforts aimed at preventing nuclear war, defending and consolidating peace in Asia and the rest of the world. It emphasized that the initiative put forth by the Soviet party leader Mikhail Gorbachev in Vladivostok and during his visit to India met those goals.

NHAN DAN PRAISES SOVIET NUCLEAR TESTING STANCE

BK011115 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 28 Feb 87

[28 February NHAN DAN commentary: "The Soviet Union's Unswerving Stand and Its Great Good Will"]

[Text] On 26 February 1987 the Soviet Union conducted an underground nuclear test in (Sani Pala Sisser) for the purpose of nuclear research. This is the Soviet Union's first test after an 18-month unilateral suspension.

One and one-half years ago, on the 40th anniversary of the Hiroshima and Nagasaki nuclear catastrophe, the Soviet Union took a very important initiative by proposing an end to all nuclear tests for military as well as peaceful purposes and called on the United States and other nuclear powers to do likewise in order to pave the way to completely eliminate nuclear weapons.

Over the past 18 months, the Soviet Union has extended 5 times its unilateral moratorium on nuclear tests on the hope that the United States would follow suit. At a time when the Washington administration carries on the modernization of its nuclear weapons through the implementation of the so-called Strategic Defense Initiative, SDI, this unilateral self-restraint on the part of the Soviet Union demonstrates its great good will and earnest desire. This also reflects all the exemplary efforts the Soviet Union has made, as opposed to the stand of Washington, for the interests of peace and security of nations.

It is the Soviet Union's desire to see mankind living in a world free from nuclear weapons and from the danger of nuclear catastrophe. Suspending all nuclear tests is of great significance as it will prevent all experimental plans for perfecting more dangerous mass-killing weapons and will, thereby, contribute to maintaining the existing balance of military-strategic forces in the world, an important factor for ensuring peace and security for all nations.

Nevertheless, the Reagan administration, in defiance of a demand by public opinion in the United States and the rest of the world to follow the example set by the Soviet Union, continues to stubbornly conduct nuclear tests in the Nevada desert. Its goal is to test and perfect third-generation nuclear weapons so it can realize its dangerous Star Wars plan in order to break the existing balance of strategic forces and to gain military superiority over the Soviet Union.

Over the past 18 months, following the Soviet Union's unilateral moratorium, the United States has conducted 26 nuclear tests despite the Soviet Union's repeated warnings that if the United States continued nuclear blasts after 1 January 1987, the Soviet Union would have no alternative but to resume its own tests. The United States has continued to repeatedly conduct many nuclear tests. Moreover, it has never indicated that it would give up its ensuing tests. This constitutes not only a brazen provocation of the Reagan administration against the Soviet Union but also a serious challenge to all nations, including the American people. Faced with such actions on the part of Washington, the Soviet Union no longer feels bound by its unilateral moratorium on nuclear tests.

The 26 February nuclear test by the Soviet Union is a necessary and resolute move, responding to Washington's stubborn actions in order to ensure security for the Soviet people as well as the Soviet allies. However, the Soviet Union continues to persistently advocate that the nuclear powers completely terminate all their nuclear tests, regarding this as a realistic and effective step toward completely eliminating nuclear weapons on earth. The Soviet Union would be ready to return to the question of suspending the nuclear tests at any time once the U.S. Administration declared a similar decision. It is clear that solving the problem of terminating all nuclear tests continues to depend on the question of whether or not the U.S. Government would show a sense of pragmatism and responsibility.

Although having been compelled to resume nuclear tests at a necessary minimum level, the Soviet Union continues to persistently advocate promoting comprehensive talks on this issue with all powers at any forums provided the United States participates in them. This unwavering stand of the Soviet Union and its good will have won widespread sympathy and support from peace-loving forces in many countries.

Today the world has entered a stage that requires new thoughts and approaches to international security matters. The problem is not peace or war or who will emerge the winner in this test of strength, but it is the problem regarding the life and death of all of mankind. The world's peace and progressive forces warmly support the unwavering stand of the Soviet Union and its great good will. They demand that the Reagan administration end all nuclear tests and hold talks with the Soviet Union to achieve a nuclear disarmament so that nations are able to live in long-lasting peace and security.

Hails New Peace Initiative

BK021439 Hanoi International Service in English 1000 GMT 2 Mar 87

[Text] The Vietnamese national daily NHAN DAN on Monday [2 March] ran a commentary on the new peace initiative put forth by Soviet party leader Mikhail Gorbachev on 28 February 1987.

The paper said that with deep concern over the common home of Europe, the Soviet Union proposed the separation of the question of medium-range missiles in Europe from the overall arms control issue and the signing of an agreement on the elimination of the U.S. and Soviet medium-range missiles in Europe. The Soviet Union also declared that right after the signing of the agreement, the Soviet Union will withdraw all its long-range tactical missiles from the GDR and Czechoslovakia which were deployed there in the framework of the measure to retaliate the U.S. deployment of Pershing-2 and winged missiles in Western Europe. While implementing this agreement on the part in Asia, the Soviet Union and the United States will reduce the missile warheads of this kind to 100 on its national territory.

This is an important initiative of the Soviet Union aimed at seeking a solution to defend peace and security in Europe and the world as a whole. Europe has become more tense over the past few years due to the imperialists' warlike policy. In their arms race to gain military supremacy against socialism, the imperialist forces deployed in Europe an important part of their arsenal of nuclear, chemical, and other mass-killing weapons. The U.S. imperialists have deployed hundreds of Pershing-2 and winged missiles in Western Europe, and together with military forces they set up an arc spearheading at the Soviet Union and other socialist countries in Europe. They also distorted and sowed enmity among nations and kindled hotbeds of conflict and war. But this is not only a threat to the socialist countries but also a real danger to existence of the European nations as well as the world people.

The U.S. nuclear arms race is not confined to Europe alone. This is a race of a global character aimed at posing a heavy threat of a nuclear war on the world as a whole, threatening the existence of humanity itself. In such a context, with a profound concern for the survival of our planet, in January 1986 the Soviet Union put forth a historic program on eliminating nuclear weapons through several phases. The concrete solution put forth by the Soviet Union (?covers) many issues including strategic offensive weapons, medium-range missiles, space weapons, and nuclear tests. It is logical to solve these issues at a time that the United States continues its arms race, especially its Star Wars program. It took an excuse of the Soviet Union's demand for a package deal on the issue so as not to carry out what they have agreed. [sentence as heard] But the Soviet Union always maintains its principled policy, that is a world without nuclear weapons.

To achieve that noble target the Soviet Union has exerted its all-out efforts. The Soviet Union's latest proposal for separating the problem of medium-range missiles from the package of disarmament issue demonstrates the Soviet people's earnest aspirations for peace and the Soviet Union's high sense of responsibility to socialism and the destiny of all European nations. This new proposal of the Soviet Union proceeds from its new thinking in the nuclear era, from the belief in its own strength and in justice and reason. It meets the peace aspiration of the people in Europe and the world as a whole. This is a good opportunity for the United States to show its sincerity in nuclear disarmament.

Public opinion is demanding that the United States actively respond to this Soviet good-will proposal.

USSR COOPERATION IN CINEMATOGRAPHY REVIEWED

OW021807 Hanoi VNA in English 1457 GMT 2 Mar 87

[Text] Hanoi VNA March 2 -- Over the past 30 years the Vietnam Cinematographic Service has received effective and multifaceted assistance from the Soviet Union.

In 1954 the first batch of Vietnamese documentary film makers were trained by Soviet cinematographic workers who had been sent to Vietnam to produce the two documentary films: "Vietnam on the Road to Victory" and "Celebrations of the National Day of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam."

In 1959 Soviet emeritus artist A. Ibraghimov was sent to Vietnam to help train Vietnamese film makers at the newly-founded cinematographic college on Hanoi's outskirts. In the following years, many Vietnamese students were sent to the Soviet Union to follow cinematographic courses at different universities and colleges. After graduation, they came back to work at various cinema studios in the country and now many of them hold key roles in the Vietnam Cinematographic Service.

Alongside personnel training, the Soviet Union has supplied Vietnam with a large amount of cinematographic machines and equipment. It plans to build in Hanoi a cinema called, "Moscow", a twinned theatre of the "Hanoi" cinema already built in Moscow.

For its part, the Vietnamese side has created most favourable conditions for the Soviet film makers to live and work in Vietnam. Many films produced by Soviet cinematographers in Vietnam have been highly appreciated by world public. They include "His Name Is Ho Chi Minh" produced by Soviet Artist Vekmy Seva and "Sorrow Shared by Anyone" by Konstantin Simonov.

Recently, the Soviet-Vietnamese cooperation has been marked with the joint efforts in making the documentary film "The Star of Fraternity" and the feature film "The Coordinate of Death."

Weeks of Vietnamese and Soviet films have been organized in the Soviet Union and Vietnam annually in celebrations of major anniversaries of the two countries. Vietnam has regularly taken part in international film festivals in Moscow and other cities of the Soviet Union and its films have won many prizes and diplomas.

HUNGARIAN DELEGATION ARRIVES FOR ECONOMIC MEETING

OW021808 Hanoi VNA in English 1503 GMT 2 Mar 87

[Text] Hanoi VNA March 3 -- An economic delegation of the Hungarian Government arrived here today to attend the 14th session of the joint Hungarian-Vietnamese Commission for Economic and Technological Cooperation.

The delegation, led by Lajos Czege, member of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party Central Committee, vice chairman of the Hungarian Council of Ministers and chairman of the Hungarian section of the commission, was met at the airport by Nguyen Ngoc Triu, member of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and chairman of the Vietnamese section of the commission. Hungarian Ambassador Bola Benyei was present on the occasion.

TRUONG CHINH RECEIVES BULGARIAN ENVOY 27 FEB

OW271533 Hanoi VNA in English 1450 GMT 27 Feb 87

[Text] Hanoi VNA Feb 27 -- President of the State Council Truong Chinh received at the presidential palace here today the Bulgarian ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to Vietnam, G.T. Vasev.

President Truong Chinh thanked the Bulgarian ambassador's active contributions to further strengthening the longstanding relations of mutual assistance and cooperation between the two countries. He asked the Bulgarian diplomat to convey his high regards to President Todor Zhivkov and other Bulgarian party and state leaders.

LEADERS GREET ALBANIAN COUNTERPARTS ONREELECTIONS

OW271537 Hanoi VNA in English 1452 GMT 27 Feb 87

[Text] Hanoi VNA Feb 27 -- President of the State Council Truong Chinh today sent a message of congratulations to Ramiz Alia on his re-election as president of the presidium of the People's Assembly of Albania.

The Vietnamese president wished the fraternal friendship and allround cooperation between the parties and peoples of Vietnam and Albania further consolidation and development, in the interests of the two peoples and of peace and socialism in the world.

Also today, Chairman of the Council of Ministers Pham Van Dong cabled his congratulations to Adil Carcani who has been re-elected chairman of the Council of Ministers of Albania, and Chairman of the National Assembly Nguyen Huu Tho sent his greetings to Petro Dode who has been elected president of the People's Assembly of Albania.

For his part, Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach has congratulated Reis Malile on his reappointment as foreign minister.

LE DUC ANH GREETS GDR COUNTERPART ON ARMY DAY

OW281609 Hanoi VNA in English 1449 GMT 28 Feb 87

[Text] Hanoi VNA Feb. 28 -- Minister of National Defence General Le Duc Anh has sent greetings to his counterpart in the German Democratic Republic, General Heinz Kessler, on the 31st GDR Army Day (March 1).

The message noted that the GDR National People's Army together with the working people has over the past three decades firmly defended their revolutionary achievements and actively contributed to building their country into a strong and prestigious one.

The GDR Army, said the message, is standing side by side with other armies of the Warsaw Treaty member countries in the struggle against the imperialists who are stepping up the arms race and preparing a nuclear war.

The message concluded by noting that the fraternal solidarity, friendship and cooperation between the two peoples and armed forces further consolidate and develop.

Tran Van Quang Attends Reception

BK010859 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 28 Feb 87

[Text] Navy Captain Kerzig Horst, military attache to the GDR Embassy in Hanoi hosted a reception on the evening of 27 February to mark the 31st anniversary of the National People's Army of the GDR, 1 March 1956-1 March 1987. GDR Ambassador Joachim Greger was on hand.

Colonel General Tran Van Quang, vice defense minister, and many other guests attended the reception. Members of the diplomatic corps and military attaches of various countries in Hanoi were also present.

Captain Kersig Horst and Col Gen Tran Van Quang praised the heroic traditions and incessant growth over the past 31 years of the GDR National People's Army which, standing shoulder to shoulder with the armies of the Soviet Union and other fraternal socialist countries, has contributed to the defense of socialism and world peace. They voiced their hope that the fraternal friendship and militant solidarity between the peoples and armies of the two countries will constantly consolidate and successfully develop.

On this occasion, the Border Defense Officers' School held a grand meeting on 26 February in honor of the 31st anniversary of the GDR National People's Army.

PHAM VAN DONG MESSAGE ON PALME DEATH ANNIVERSARY

OW281611 Hanoi VNA in English 1454 GMT 28 Feb 87

[Text] Hanoi VNA Feb. 28 -- Chairman of the Council of Ministers Pham Van Dong has sent a message to Swedish Prime Minister Ingvar Carlsson on the 1st anniversary of the death of the late Prime Minister Olof Palme. The message says:

"I would like to express the love and respect of my own and of the entire Vietnamese people for the late Prime Minister Olof Palme and ask you to convey to Mr Palme's family my best regards.

"Mr Palme's name and work will live in the hearts of all peace-loving people on this planet and will remain forever a fine symbol of the friendship between the peoples of Sweden and Vietnam.

TRUONG CHINH GREETS AL-QADHDHAFI ON LIBYAN DAY

BK011557 Hanoi VNA in English 1504 GMT 1 Mar 87

[Text] Hanoi VNA March 1 -- President Truong Chinh today sent his greetings to revolutionary leader Col M. Al-Qadhdhafi on the 10th founding anniversary of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya.

The message says: "Over the past ten years, under the people's authority, the Libyan people have recorded important achievements in the economic, cultural and social areas. They have continuously upheld the struggle against imperialism, first of all the U.S. imperialists, and foiled all their aggressive actions to safeguard Libya's independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity".

The message notes that the past 10 years has seen the "fruitful development of the friendship and cooperation between Vietnam and Libya, which has actively contributed to the cause of peace and social progress in the world".

The message wishes the Libyan people new success in defending their national independence and in building Libya into a prosperous country.

TALKS HELD WITH LAOS ON INFORMATION WORK

BK011559 Hanoi VNA in English 1511 GMT 1 Mar 87

[Text] Hanoi VNA March 1 -- Talks have been held here between a delegation of the Commission for Information and Training of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee and a delegation of the Commission for Propaganda and Training of the Central Committee of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party.

The two sides adopted a plan of professional cooperation in 1987 aimed at strengthening the work of information and training of the two parties.

During their recent visit to Vietnam the Lao guests were received by Dao Duy Tung, alternate member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the CPV Central Committee. Lao Ambassador B. Chaleunsouk was present at the reception.

The Lao guests toured several production establishments in Hanoi, and Quang Nam-Danang Province.

'FABRICATION' ON INCURSION INTO THAILAND REJECTED

OW021531 Hanoi VNA in English 1507 GMT 2 Mar 87

[VNA statement]

[Text] Hanoi VNA March 2 -- Thai military sources, quoted by foreign press services on Feb. 28 claimed that about 100 Vietnamese troops had intruded into Thailand and were taking position three kilometres inside Thai territory in Ubon Natothatheami Province.

Vietnam News Agency is authorized to completely reject this fabrication.

The Socialist Republic of Vietnam strictly abides by its unchangeable stance of fully respecting the independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity and security of Thailand.

COMMENTARY LAUDS BRAZIL ON FOREIGN DEBT, SCORES IMF

BK251536 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 25 Feb 87

[Kien Nam Commentary: "Brazil's Settlement of Foreign Debt Is Also a Burning Issue Facing Latin American Countries"]

[Text] On 20 February, Brazilian President Jose Sarney declared: Brazil would postpone for 90 days the interest payment on its foreign debt in order not to hinder the rate of its economic development. Brazil's foreign debt is a common burning issue facing all Latin American countries whose foreign debts have soared up to \$400 billion, and in 5 more years, with interest added, the debts would go up to more than \$800 billion. As a result, Brazil's declaration to postpone the interest payment on its foreign debt has quickly won the sympathy and support of the Latin American public.

The Mexican daily EL DIA on 21 February wrote: A majority of political parties and large numbers of circles in society unanimously agree that Brazil's decision to postpone the payment of its debt is a brave stand that must be supported.

More than 20 years ago, in 1964, Brazil's debt amounted only to \$2 billion. Twenty-one years later, this debt went up to \$105 billion and is now up to \$110 billion, 50 times more. In the past 5 years alone, Brazil had to pay \$55 billion while it could borrow only \$19 billion. Creditor countries merely increase the annual interest rate by 1 percent and Brazil suffers a loss of hundreds of millions of dollars.

With respect to Brazil's exports, the United States has implemented the policy of tax surcharge, imposing a 50-percent tax on Brazil's exports, making the latter lose hundreds of millions of dollars. The United States has imposed such taxes 350 times on Latin American countries, causing the latter to lose \$25 billion.

The biggest creditor of Brazil as well as other Latin American countries is the U.S.-controlled IMF. The IMF has used its loans to compel debtor countries to do what it imposes on them in disregard of their sovereignty. For example, if Brazil wants more loans, it would have to increase the prices of fuel, electricity, and steel; lower wages; and devalue the cruzeiro, the Brazilian monetary unit. If Brazil refused, the IMF immediately cut aid that had just been agreed upon in a recently concluded agreement.

The French ECONOMY AND POLITICS had to conclude: The IMF has become the common number one enemy of the Third World. It is the world of finances, hoarding, and dollars.

The United States has further lowered the prices of Brazil's exports and increased the prices of its industrial exports to Brazil, making the latter lose \$2.7 billion. This amount has been pocketed by creditor countries. The situation continues. The United States compels Brazil to create favorable conditions for its exports to Brazil while limiting Brazilian exports to the United States.

Consequently, the struggle against foreign debt is now a seething movement in Latin America. The Latin American peoples have twice taken to the streets to oppose foreign debt.

Comrade Fidel Castro once said: Based on all mathematical calculations and on economic, political, historical, and ethical thought, Latin America cannot pay its foreign debt. The problem does not involve the principal alone but also the interest that cannot be paid. As a solution, he said: Creditor countries must shoulder the debts of their own banks. All they have to do is to deduct from 10 to 12 percent of their military budgets to pay these debts. If the whole world reduces its annual military budget by one third, it would not be difficult to settle the debts and it would help limit the arms race.

The unjust and unethical debts must be erased along with eliminating the outdated world economic order, and a new and just system of world economic order must be established. Brazil's declaration to postpone the interest payment on its foreign debt falls in with the anti foreign-debts struggle of all of Latin America as well as Africa. It is winning the positive support of the world public.

RADIO REVIEWS TAP CHI CONG SAN FEBRUARY ISSUE

BK231430 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1000 GMT 22 Feb 87

[Summary] "Dear friends; We would like to devote today's Press Review program to introducing the February 1987 issue of TAP CHI CONG SAN.

"The February 1987 issue of TAP CHI CONG SAN has come off the press. The journal carries an editorial entitled: 'Strengthen the Party's Unity and Unanimity and Resolve To Implement Successfully the Resolution of the Sixth CPV Congress.' The editorial says: In the past the party-building task has not been given appropriate attention. In political guidance, although having determined correctly general and economic guidelines for the entire transitional period, our party has committed serious mistakes in major policies and lines in strategic guidance, and in the organizing work implementation. In socioeconomic guidance, there have also been mistakes and shortcomings resulting from deficiencies in the ideological and organizational activities of the party and its cadre-related work. Such a situation has adversely affected the unity and strength of the party.

"To meet the new requirements and tasks of the revolution, we must truly bring the party up to the level of a ruling party capable of leading the entire people in implementing the two strategic tasks. To achieve this aim, we must strengthen our unity and unanimity politically, ideologically, and organizationally on the basis of Marxist-Leninist ideology and of the party's lines and viewpoints and must concern ourselves with maintaining unity among various leading organs of the party. On this basis, we must strengthen the unity in the entire party and must preserve unity and unanimity in the party as if it were the apple of our own eyes.

"The editorial emphasizes: In order to build unity and unanimity in the party, we cannot but struggle straightforwardly and resolutely against erroneous viewpoints, deviant thoughts, and negative phenomena. The building of unity and unanimity in the party should not be disassociated from the people. It is necessary to thoroughly understand the ideas regarding the people as the base and building and developing the people's right to be masters. It is also necessary to widely exercise the system of criticism of party cadres and members by the masses."

The editorial concludes by pointing out the duties of various echelons and sectors to build unity and unanimity in the party and to implement successfully the resolution of the Sixth CPV Congress.

An article by Comrade Dao Duy Tung, alternate member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the party Central Committee, entitled: "Some Problems Regarding Renovating Thinking," says:

"In the current revolutionary stage, in order to fulfill its duties, our party must renovate in various respects -- namely renovation in thinking, especially economic thinking, renovation in organization, renovation in the contingent of cadres, and renovation in leadership and work styles."

The article continues: Achieving renovations now constitute a pressing demand and a matter of life and death for our country's revolution.

The article points out: "The reasons why our party stresses the need to renovate thinking at this time are: First, we are backward in theoreticl conceptions; second our renovation of thinking is closely related to rapid and complex development in the world; and third, the unprecedently large scientific and technical revolution has brought mankind enormous successes, thereby creating a vigorous impact on the thinking of mankind."

"The process of achieving renovation in thinking is not easy and simple," the article says. "We must redo correctly those things which we have conceived and done incorrectly, must abolish those things which have been unable to stand the test of time, must substantiate and further enrich those things which are still abstract, and must accept and supply those things which have been renovated or have been done correctly if we are to modernize our socialist conceptions," the article adds.

Next comes an article by Comrade Tran Huu Dac, member of the party Central Committee and deputy head of the Central Control Commission, entitled: "Intensify Control Work in Order To Contribute To Implementing the Resolution of the Sixth CPV Congress."

After reviewing the party's control work in the past, the article calls for greater efforts to carry out the following: Party committee echelons must personally conduct control work. All departments of the party and various echelons and sectors must carry out satisfactorily their control tasks in accordance with prescribed functions and duties. Emphasis must be placed on inspecting the observance of the party's rules and discipline and of the state law and on dealing justly, accurately, and promptly with all cases of violation of party discipline.

The journal carries a short roundup of President Ho Chi Minh's activities from late 1924 to early 1930.

Beginning with this issue, TAP CHI CONG SAN introduces a feature entitled: "Exchanges of Views on the Role of the Human Factor in the Cause of Socialist Construction." In this feature, the journal runs the following articles: "Man, the Author and Product of History, the Objective and Moving Force of Revolution" by Ta Van Thanh; "On the Human Factor in National Economic Development" by Dang Thu; "Man, the Most Valuable Asset" by Tran Do; "On the Unity Between the Current Economic and Social Policies" by Deng Quang Thuan; and "On the Social Policy and the Struggle For Social Justice" by Pham Nhu Cuong.

"The journal also runs an article by the late Senior General Hoang Van Thai dealing with the task of preparing the country against a war of aggression. The major and complex problems of preparing the country against a war of aggression discussed in the article show that making the country ready to cope with a war of aggression is an objective necessary requirement and an extremely important aim of the law governing the defense of the socialist fatherland. At present, when the imperialist and international reactionary forces are plunging ever more deeply on the road of militarism and belligerence and committing aggression by means of cruel and blatant maneuvers, the task of preparing the country against a war of aggression must be given increasing attention and carried out more actively."

The journal also publishes an article by Nguyen Phu Trong entitled: "An Invaluable Lesson of History." The article points out our party's viewpoint on considering the peoples as the roots and on promoting and developing the working people's right to collective mastery. The article stresses: "At present, the decisive question in strengthening the relations between the party and the masses is that the party must show adequate and profound care for the livelihood and interests of the masses, really respect and bring into full play their right to collective mastery, consolidate and build party organizations to make them really pure, and overcome negative phenomena among party cadres and members, thereby making the party really worthy of being the leader as well as the loyal servant of the people."

Next comes an article by Vo Tu Thanh entitled: "Some Opinions on Renovating Organizational and Cadre Work." The article "shows that to renovate organizational and cadre work, first of all there must be a correct perception of the importance and scientific content of this task. Organizational work must be regarded not only as a science but also an art -- a science and art of social management and organization, a science and art of study, management, and use of people. Along with renovating perception, we must renovate the contingent of cadres in charge of organizational work and renovate the methods of and work-style in carrying out organizational work. This field of activity requires that cadres be endowed not only with political qualities but also with the necessary knowledge in many domains, especially the scientific knowledge of social and production organization and management as well as the scientific knowledge of man and of the management and use of people."

The journal also features an article by Tran Thanh entitled: "On Building a Rational Economic Structure." After dissecting the "current poor economic situation in our country, one of the fundamental causes of which is the failure to determine a correct economic structure and correct objectives so as to take steps consistent with the real conditions and capabilities of the country, the article touches on the question of readjusting the economic, production, and investment structures to make them rational. This must be done by really considering agriculture as the foremost front while actively developing light industry, including the consumer goods production industry and the agricultural products processing industry, creating abundant sources of export goods, expeditiously providing more jobs for laborers, and gradually creating accumulation of capital from the internal sources of the national economy."

TAP CHI CONG SAN then presents an article by Nyguen Huu Phung entitled: "Some Initial Improvements in the Economic Management Mechanism in Thanh Hoa." The article introduces the initial results and experience of Thanh Hoa Province in implementing the resolution of the eighth plenum of the Fifth CPV Central Committee on abolishing the mechanism of bureaucratic centralism and state subsidies and on implementing the system of democratic centralism and socialist accounting and business, and the draft resolution of the Political Bureau on ensuring the basic economic units' autonomy in production and business.

Next comes an article by Phan Quynh Anh entitled: "Reflections of Some Works by Young Writers" which reviews the literary contributions by a number of young Vietnamese writers since the total liberation of South Vietnam.

"In the feature 'Letters to The Editors' the journal carries an article by (Le Van Dac) entitled: 'The True Colors of the Opportunists.' In the 'Ideological Life' feature the journal runs an article by (Duc Quy) entitled: 'Avoidance.'"

In an article by Ho Bat Khuat published in this issue of TAP CHI CONG SAN entitled: "The Meeting for Peace and Social Progress," the author points out a number of important issues discussed at the conference of the editors in chief of theoretical organs of the communist and workers parties held in Moscow 3-5 December 1986.

RADIO REPORTS CONTROL WORK IN CUU LONG PROVINCE

BK271403 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 25 Feb 87

[Text] The people's control over sector of Cuu Long Province has conducted an inspection to economically control various agencies and units and has detected and promptly prevented many cases of embezzlement, corruption, violation of socialist property, and illegal business operations, thereby recovering almost 35 million dong for the state.

The economic management institute of the province has failed to scrupulously enforce financial and monetary discipline due to several loopholes. The phenomena of illegal business operations on the basis of differences in prices or the abuse of joint ventures and businesses to trade and barter materials and goods for personal profit still prevail. Building materials, insecticide, oil, and gasoline belonging to the state are still being siphoned off into the free market.

The control sector has cooperated with various sectors in the province to deal with many cases of law violation in the economic domain. In the past year, some 100 cases of economic violation have been dealt with, including more than 50 cases which have been prosecuted. Some major cases have been acclaimed by the people such as the case of corruption at the My Thuan ferry port involving 60 convictions, and the case of infringement on the principle of currency exchange in the provincial bank involving more than 30 persons.

Among the detected violations, as many as 70 percent of those found guilty are state cadres, workers, and employees. The control sector has selected four targeted economic sectors -- internal trade, external trade, agriculture, and industry -- to thoroughly control the areas of distribution, circulation, distribution and management of materials, management of the market, and pricing discipline in 112 units and sectors.

The control sector has filed 95 petitions to various sectors and people's committees at various levels, recommending the application of administrative punishment against 136 guilty cadres, and legal action against dozens of cadres and employees found guilty of other violations. This year, the provincial control sector has resolved to overcome delay in handling cases of violation, especially cases of serious crimes involving high-ranking cadres, and to discharge its function as prescribed by law.

CAO BANG TO FORMULATE NEW ECONOMIC PROGRAMS

BK020915 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 28 Feb 87

[Text] The party committee of Cao Bang Province has decided to formulate its three economic programs along the line of renovating the production and investment structure, the management mechanism, and the various policies to encourage production.

The province affirmed that agriculture is the foremost front with the planting of rice, corn, tobacco, and soybean and the raising of hogs and cattle, especially cows, to be the main effort. In forestry, the cultivation of small bamboo and tung trees will be the mainstay. On the basis of the new production structure, Cao Bang will make capital investment in a concentrated fashion to definitely complete each project in order to obtain early results. It will also concentrate investment on the three economic programs on a priority basis.

In line with its intensive cultivation policy, this year Cao Bang will strive to increase its area of high-yield rice to about 19,000 hectares and to achieve a yield of approximately 40 quintals per hectare. The province will coordinate with the Science and Technology Institute of the Ministry of Agriculture in providing technical guidance on the intensive cultivation of 800-1,000 hectares to obtain a yield of 100-120 quintals per hectare. The province will grow 10,000 hectares of high-yield corn with an expected yield of more than 25 quintals per hectare.

To achieve these targets, Cao Bang will lose no time in renovating organizational and cadre work, improve supply procurement, widely applying the contract system in both the state and collective economic sectors, consolidating production relations in agriculture, and implementing various lever policies to promote economic development.

AUSTRALIASOVIET FOREIGN MINISTER SHEVARDNADZE ARRIVES

BK030049 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0030 GMT 3 Mar 87

[Text] The Soviet foreign minister, Mr Shevardnadze, has had a brief confrontation with an Australian Jewish leader following his arrival in Canberra today for official talks. Mr Shevardnadze was greeted by the foreign affairs minister, Mr Hayden. While he was walking to his official car, Mr Shevardnadze was questioned about the plight of Soviet Jews by the president of the New South Wales Jewish Board of Deputies, Mr Graham Devahl Davis.

During 2 days in Canberra, the Soviet foreign minister will hold talks with the prime minister, Mr Hawke, and Mr Hayden. Radio Australia's Canberra office says the federal government is expected to ask Mr Shevardnadze to outline Soviet intentions in the South Pacific following recent efforts by Moscow to obtain fishing rights from several Pacific nations.

The foreign minister is a member of the Soviet Politburo and is the most senior Russian leader to visit Australia.

'Rowdy' Reception

BK030255 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0230 GMT 3 Mar 87

[Text] The Soviet foreign minister, Mr Shevardnadze, has been given a rowdy reception at the start of a 2-day visit to Australia. As Will Atkins reports from Canberra he was greeted by demonstrators at Canberra airport and on his arrival at Parliament House.

[Begin recording] Mr Shevardnadze, who is in Australia for official talks, was confronted virtually the moment he arrived by a Jewish leader after he was greeted by Australia's foreign minister, Mr Hayden, and was walking to his car. He was questioned about the plight of Soviet Jews by the president of the New South Wales Jewish Board of Deputies, Mr Graham Devahl Davis. But the rowdiest encounter was at Parliament House. Jewish, Afghan, and Ukrainian groups had been gathering all morning and when Mr Shevardnadze arrived just after midday, he walked across to the protesters with a huddle of Australian and Soviet security officers and tried to talk to the protesters, but the result was mayhem. [shouts from protesters] The concerned Mr Hayden waited on the Parliament steps and when Mr Shevardnadze walked back to the Parliament he explained that he simply had wanted to talk to the protesters but had been unable to.
[end recording]

Arrival Statement

BK030323 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0300 GMT 3 Mar 87

[Text] The Soviet foreign minister, Mr Shevardnadze, has arrived in Canberra at the start of a 2-day visit to Australia for a round of official talks. He was met at the airport by the Australian foreign affairs minister, Mr Hayden.

Radio Australia's Canberra Office says government officials are expected to ask Mr Shevardnadze to outline Soviet intentions in the South Pacific following recent efforts by Moscow to obtain fishing rights from several South Pacific nations.

In an arrival statement, the Soviet foreign minister said he had come to exchange views on ways of bringing about a nuclear-free and nonviolent world. He said a major aim was to ensure tranquillity and stability in Asia and the Pacific and strengthen cooperation between the Soviet Union and Australia. Several hundred Jewish protesters held an anti-Soviet demonstration at the airport as Mr Shevardnadze arrived.

Meets Hayden

BK030526 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0500 GMT 3 Mar 87

[Text] Australia's foreign affairs minister, Mr Hayden, says his first round of talks in Canberra with the Soviet foreign minister, Mr Shevardnadze, should cover openly and freely the difference between the two countries. Mr Hayden told the visiting Soviet foreign minister that Australia opposed the invasion and occupation of Afghanistan and Vietnam's occupation of Kampuchea.

Speaking at a luncheon in Parliament House, Mr Hayden said Australia had concerns about humanitarian issues and the increased level of Soviet activity in the South Pacific. He said Australia welcomed the new direction evident in Soviet laws and policies which he said would be of great benefit for the cause of peace.

Mr Hayden said the latest Soviet proposal on reducing intermediate range nuclear weapons in Europe was welcomed and should be extended to the rest of the world.

Hayden Cites Differences

BK030705 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0630 GMT 3 Mar 87

[Excerpt] The foreign affairs minister, Mr Hayden, has told his Soviet counterpart, Mr Shevardnadze, that their talks in Canberra would not ignore the differences between Australia and the Soviet Union. Mr Hayden was speaking at Parliament House of the 1st day of the Soviet foreign minister's 3-day visit to Australia. Radio Australia's diplomatic reporter, Graeme Dobell, has the story.

[Begin recording] Hosting a lunch for Mr Shevardnadze at Parliament House, Mr Hayden said the differences between the two states should not be glossed over. He told the Soviet foreign minister that Australia opposed the invasion and occupation of Afghanistan and Vietnam's occupation of Kampuchea. Australia had concerns about humanitarian issues and the increased level of Soviet activity in the South Pacific. Mr Hayden said the talks on these points would not be antagonistic; rather there would be an effort to see how progress could be achieved.

The foreign minister said Australia welcomed the new direction evident in Soviet laws and policies. Mr Hayden said the reforms would not bring an end to competition with the West, but the nuclear world required that major changes and positive words should not be rebuffed unthinkingly. Australia wanted to see the Soviet Union play a constructive and positive role in the international system.

In a statement issued on his arrival, Mr Shevardnadze said he wanted to ensure tranquillity and stability in Asia and the Pacific. The Soviet foreign minister said he thought the Australian Government would want a more detailed idea of the processes now underway in the Soviet Union. [end recording]

Earlier, Mr Shevardnadze received a rowdy reception upon his arrival in Canberra. [passage omitted]

Soviet Reply To Hayden

BK030854 Hong Kong AFP in English 0801 GMT 3 Mar 87

[Excerpts] Canberra, March 3 (AFP) -- Australian Foreign Minister Bill Hayden told Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze here Tuesday that Australia was concerned about Soviet penetration of the South Pacific. [passage omitted]

Mr Shevardnadze took up Mr Hayden's references to the South Pacific in his reply address to the luncheon being held in his honour.

Referring to Fort Denison, which was built on Sydney harbour last century to repel a feared Russian attack, the Soviet foreign minister said he understood that Australia had set up cannon along its coast to fight off feared Russian invasion.

"But none of them has ever fired a shot, illustrative of obvious truths," he said.

"Now, with the Soviet Union taking its first steps towards areas adjacent to Australia, there were reefs of suspicion and apprehension, some of which Mr Hayden has mentioned," he said.

"Reefs of apprehension can be removed," he said.

Mr Shevardnadze said he did not believe there should be differences between Australia and the Soviet Union in the Pacific. He added that differences could be replaced with "prospects for dialogue and cooperation."

Assures of 'No Bad Aims'

BK031017 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 1000 GMT 3 Mar 87

[Text] The Soviet foreign minister, Mr Shevardnadze, has assured Australia that his country has no hidden intentions in the South Pacific. Mr Shevardnadze gave the assurance during talks in Canberra with his Australian counterpart, Mr Hayden.

A Radio Australia correspondent in Canberra, Graeme Dobell, reports that Mr Hayden expressed concern about increased Soviet activities in the South Pacific and the danger of an increased intentions in the region. Mr Shevardnadze replied that Moscow had no bad aims and no hidden intentions in the South Pacific. He said the Soviet Union was interested in normal commercial and diplomatic relations.

Remarks on S. Pacific

BK031020 Hong Kong AFP in English 1010 GMT 3 Mar 87

[By David Davies]

[Text] Canberra, March 3 (AFP) -- Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze Tuesday told the Australian Government that the Soviet Union had no secret or underhand intentions in the South Pacific region. Mr Shevardnadze, who as a Politburo member is the highest-ranking Soviet official ever to visit Australia, gave this assurance during talks with Foreign Minister Bill Hayden.

Mr Hayden at a lunch in Parliament House had earlier expressed Australia's concern at the increased level of Soviet activity in the South Pacific. A senior Australian official said Mr Shevardnadze told Mr Hayden during their three-hour meeting that the Soviet Union had no intention of penetrating the region. The Soviet foreign minister said his government was interested in building up its commercial, general diplomatic and other relations with the South Pacific countries.

Referring to Soviet fishing agreements with Pacific island states Mr Hayden said that the Soviet Union certainly had the right as a sovereign country to undertake such commercial activities, the official added. But the Australian foreign minister expressed the wish that there should not be any increase in East-West tensions in the region. Mr Hayden mentioned Australia's concern over Soviet use of the military bases at Da Nang and Cam Ranh Bay in Vietnam. The talks also covered Afghanistan, the Indochina situation including Cambodia and arms control.

On his arrival at Parliament House Mr Shevardnadze met a rowdy demonstration by Jewish, Afghan and Ukrainian protestors. The burly, white-haired minister took Australian security men by surprise when he walked across to the demonstrators who were lined up on the lawn opposite Parliament House. His attempt to speak to the protestors failed in a bedlam of noise as the demonstrators chanted their different slogans through loudspeakers.

A serious breach of security occurred at the Royal Australian Air Force base near Canberra shortly after Mr Shevardnadze had been welcomed to Australia by Mr Hayden. A Jewish community leader tagged himself onto the end of the reception line and engaged Mr Shevardnadze in an unscheduled dialogue on the plight of Soviet Jews. Graham Devahl Davis, president of the New South Wales Jewish board of deputies, said later he had passed unchallenged through the police and air force security cordons after simply showing his driver's license.

The senior Australian official said that Mr Shevardnadze's talks with Mr Hawke would cover the Middle East situation and humanitarian issues, including the domestic reforms introduced by Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

The Soviet minister will give a press conference Wednesday before leaving for Sydney and an overnight stopover before going onto Indonesia Thursday.

Human Rights Petition Rejected

BK031057 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 1030 GMT 3 Mar 87

[Excerpt] The federal opposition has expressed disappointment at a refusal by the Soviet foreign minister, Mr Shevardnadze, to accept the petition on human rights in the Soviet Union. The chairman of the opposition's Foreign Affairs Committee, Senator Hill, said the refusal was an affront to the Australian Parliament. He said the petition, which was signed by 131 members of Parliament, called on Moscow to permit Soviet Jews to practice their religion freely and to be allowed to emigrate to Israel.

The senator said there were over 400,000 Jews wanting to emigrate from the Soviet Union, but only 914 visas were granted in 1986. The petition was offered to Mr Shevardnadze at the start of his 3-day visit to Australia.

The Soviet minister held talks in Canberra today with his Australian counterpart, Mr Hayden. Radio Australia's Canberra Office says Mr Shevardnadze assured Mr Hayden that Moscow had no hidden intentions in the South Pacific. He was responding to Mr Hayden's concern about increased Soviet activity in the area.

Meanwhile, an investigation has been held into security breach which allowed an Australian Jewish leader to confront Mr Shevardnadze on his arrival in Canberra. The Soviet minister was walking to his office car at (Fairban) Air Base when he was questioned by the man about the plight of Jews wanting to leave the Soviet Union.
[passage omitted]

Talks Said 'Direct, Honest'

BK031125 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 1030 GMT 3 Mar 87

[Excerpts] The Soviet foreign minister, Mr Shevardnadze, has assured Australia that his country has no hidden intentions in the South Pacific. Mr Shevardnadze gave the assurance during talks in Canberra with his Australian counterpart, Mr Hayden.
[passage omitted]

An Australian official said the talks between the foreign ministers were robust, direct, and honest. The official said there had been a long discussion about Kampuchea and Indochina, and both sides had agreed on the need for dialogue between all the parties.

In answer to Mr Hayden's condemnation of the Soviet presence in Afghanistan, Mr Shevardnadze had said Moscow wanted a political settlement which would allow an early withdrawal of its troops.

SOVIET FOREIGN MINISTER STOPS OVER IN BALI 2 MAR

BK030120 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 2300 GMT 2 Mar 87

[Text] Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze made a 3-hour stopover on Bali Island last night on the way to Australia. Soviet Consul General in Surabaya [name indistinct] disclosed this during a courtesy call on Bali Governor Ida Bagus Mantra in Denpasar prior to the Soviet foreign minister's arrival in Jakarta on 5 March. The Soviet consul general in Surabaya described Shevardnadze's visit to Australia as a reflection of growing Soviet interest in the Pacific. After visiting the kangaroo country, the Soviet foreign minister will start an official program in Indonesia.

Eduard Shevardnadze rested at Nusa Dua Beach Hotel and watched a Balinese dance performance during his stay on the Island of Angel.

SOVIET ENVOY LOOKS FORWARD TO 'CLOSER RELATIONS'

BK030746 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 0700 GMT 3 Mar 87

[Text] The Soviet Union asserts that its relations with Indonesia are developing on the basis of equality, mutual respect, and noninterference in each other's internal affairs. The view was expressed by the acting Soviet charge d'affaires to Indonesia, [name indistinct], in a press release in Jakarta today prior to Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze's visit to Indonesia.

According to the Soviet charge d'affaires, the Soviet people are looking forward to closer relations with Indonesia under the principle of nonalignment. The two countries already have a basis for good relations in the future. This basis consists of their views on various issues such as war and peace, international security, disarmament, and a fair restructuring of international economic relations. In addition, both the Soviet Union and Indonesia oppose colonialism and apartheid and support the settlement of disputes through political and peaceful means.

The acting Soviet charge d'affaires added that Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze will be the first Soviet foreign minister to visit Indonesia. He will arrive in Jakarta on 5 March.

MOKHTAR HOLDS TALKS WITH INDIAN FOREIGN MINISTER

BK021547 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 1500 GMT 2 Mar 87

[Text] Foreign Minister Mokhtar Kusumaatmaja held a discussion with Indian External Affairs Minister Natwar Singh concerning the resolution of the Cambodian conflict. The two-hour discussion in Jakarta also touched on bilateral and regional issues. The two ministers considered the meeting beneficial and expressed the hope that relations would continue.

Minister Natwar Singh expressed his interest in long-term bilateral economic cooperation especially concerning the purchase of certain Indonesian products and also concerning the participation of Indian industries in joint India-Indonesia industrial development projects. Both sides also agreed to upgrade cooperation in education and technology.

ARMY CHIEF, PARTY LEADER DISCUSS APRIL ELECTION

BK030442 Jakarta THE JAKARTA POST in English 23 Feb 87 p 3

[Text] Jakarta (JP) -- Army Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Tri Sutrisno said he is sure that the upcoming April general election would proceed more smoothly than the 1982 elections.

At a meeting with central Java leaders in Semarang last week, the general called on all three political groups participant in the April polls to refrain from repeating old ways in the electoral campaign which might damage national unity. "Let's abide by the regulations and carry out the election well."

All parties, the ruling Functional Group (Golkar), the United Development Party (PPP), and the Indonesian Democratic Party (PDI), have no other ideologies besides Pancasila. He said Pancasila democracy rules out rivalry between the parties. The Indonesian democratic system places emphasis on consensus to achieve national goals.

The three socio-political groups which will start campaigning next month are all partners in national development without a dominant majority. There is nothing in Pancasila democracy but consensus, he said.

He again reminded the nation of various problems and challenges facing national development in the years to come. But encouraged them to work to overcome all obstacles.

The government has prepared the foundation over the four five-year development plans (Pelita) for future development, the general said. People should not only understand but also participate in national development.

General Tri also urged central Java leaders to set a good example. KOMPAS quoted him as saying "If leaders are creative and full of innovation and initiative and have strong spirit," it would encourage the people to join in the development.

He also urged leaders from both the formal and informal sectors to provide the people with better services.

Meanwhile the head of the United Development Party (PPP) in his statement on the upcoming general election has called on the government to ensure free and fair election.

At a gathering to commemorate the PPP's 14th anniversary here recently, J. Naro cited a recent statement by the home affairs minister saying that the PPP and PDI were not mere ornaments in Indonesian politics. While the Indonesian Armed Forces Commander General L.B. Murdani said that the two parties should be given a fair chance at the polls.

About 40,000 other ex-communists are not eligible to vote.

TIN GROUP ASKS U.S. NOT TO RELEASE STOCKPILE

BK021019 Jakarta International Service in English 0800 GMT 2 Mar 87

[Text] Members of the Association of Tin Producing Countries -- ATPC -- have asked the United States not to release its tin stockpile until the time limit of the ATPC member countries implement their export control program. [sentence as heard]

ATPC executive secretary (Victor Chia) said in Kuala Lumpur that the ATPC members have asked the United States not to disturb ATPC's effort to bring the tin market to normal for the benefit of the buying and selling countries. The ATPC export control program is saying that it is losing tin supply which is currently still floating caused by the cut-off export.

(Victor Chia) also said that the ASEAN consultation committee in Washington had met the General Service Administration in an effort to ensure the success of the production cut program. He added that the objective of the ATPC export control program is to stabilize the price and supply in the market.

PARLIAMENT RATIFIES 1987-88 DRAFT BUDGET

BK281319 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 0700 GMT 28 Feb 87

[Text] A plenary parliamentary session, chaired by Deputy House Speaker Harjantha Sumodisastro, today ratified the 1987-88 draft budget. Earlier, spokesmen of the Armed Forces parliamentary faction and the Indonesian Democratic Party faction presented their final views on the draft budget. The spokesman of the Armed Forces faction, Bakri Srihartono, called on the government to pay close attention to the personnel's efficiency and budget supervision to avoid unnecessary budget spending in view of the current uncertain economic situation. The Armed Forces faction appreciates the government's openness in explaining its ability to cope with the economic and monetary situation so the public is encouraged to follow the latest development.

Meanwhile, the spokesman of the Indonesian Democratic Party, Suparman, expressed the hope that the government will continue to boost its oil commodity export with a view to increasing the state's foreign reserves. The faction suggested that Finance Minister Radius Prawiro, in his capacity as government representative, declare that the 1987-88 budget was formulated when the national economic situation was not favorable. However, that should not discourage the Indonesian people who should instead make it a challenge to overcome the existing problems. The finance minister said the successful implementation of the 1987-88 budget depends heavily on the state personnel's determination to maintain discipline and the people's participation in implementing national development.

STUDENT'S RIGHT OF POLITICAL INVOLVEMENT REITERATED

BK020647 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 0600 GMT 2 Mar 87

[Excerpt] Minister/State Secretary Sudharmono has reiterated that the Indonesian Government allows students to conduct political activities but bans the use of campuses for their practical political activities. Minister Sudharmono was speaking to academics and students of the Yogyakarta State Institute of Pedagogy at the campus in Yogyakarta last night. Earlier, the minister made similar remarks before students of Diponegoro University and the Semarang State Institute of Pedagogy. He stressed that students as individuals are free to be involved in politics and to channel their aspirations through the three organizations contesting general elections, while the government will continue to give political education to Indonesian citizens to enable them to know their rights and obligations in national and state life. [passage omitted]

MALAYSIACOMMENTARY URGES LEE KUAN YEW TO FREE POLITICIAN

BK030415 (Clandestine) Voice of Malayan Democracy in Malay 1215 GMT 2 Mar 87

["Short commentary": "The Lee Kuan Yew Regime Must Immediately Release Chia Thye Poh Unconditionally"]

[Text] As of 29 October last year, the Lee Kuan Yew ruling clique had arbitrarily detained and unjustly imprisoned Chia Thye Poh, former Barisan Sosialis Singapura [Singapore Socialist Front] member of parliament, for 20 years. How many times does a 20-year period occur in the life of a human being? Moreover, the 20 years Chia Thye Poh has spent in prison should have been the prime of his life -- a period for him to make his greatest contribution to society. We strongly condemn the Lee Kuan Yew clique for cruelly destroying a very useful young man, and strongly demand that the Lee Kuan Yew clique immediately release Chia Thye Poh unconditionally.

Chia Thye Poh, now 48 years old, was arrested by Lee Kuan Yew at the age of 27 while serving as an assistant lecturer at Nanyang University having recently graduated from the department of physics at the university. He had been taking part in a struggle to defend national education since he was a secondary school student. Like other hot-tempered youths in Singapore in the 1950's and 1960's, Chia involved himself in an open and legal mass movement fiercely opposing imperialism and colonialism, defending human rights, and fighting for freedom. In 1963 Chia, as a Barisan Sosialis candidate, was elected as a Malaysian member of parliament until Singapore seceded from Malaysia in August 1965. Thereafter, the Lee Kuan Yew clique acted more severely to suppress progressive opposition leaders, trade union leaders, and masses whose political orientations differed from its own. Chia Thye Poh was one of the nine members of parliament from the Barisan Socialis, then the only opposition party in the Singapore Parliament. He wrote for the BARISAN newspaper, the official organ of the Barisan Sosialis. In December 1965, the Barisan Sosialis members of parliament boycotted parliamentary sessions to protest the fascist character of the Lee Kuan Yew clique which had arrested and imprisoned a large number of Barisan Sosialis members and restricted the legal activities of opposition parties. In April 1966, the Lee Kuan Yew clique arrested two Barisan Sosialis members of parliament. On 8 October the same year, all the Barisan Sosialis members of parliament officially resigned from their parliamentary posts to protest the continued suppression by the Lee Kuan Yew clique of the legal activities of opposition parties. They announced that the Barisan Sosialis would pursue a mass struggle in the form of public demonstrations, protests, and rallies. The police, directed by the Lee Kuan Yew clique, on 25 October resorted to violence and wounded several people in a public rally sponsored by the Barisan Sosialis to support the Vietnamese people's struggle against U.S. imperialism.

On 29 October, the Lee Kuan Yew clique arrested Chia Thye Poh and 21 other Barisan Sosialis members and trade union leaders on the so-called charges of resorting to acts of violence. The Lee Kuan Yew clique has held Chia Thye Poh from 1966 until now without any evidence, charge, or trial in court. Thus, Chia has wasted the best years of his life with his more than 20 years at Moon Crescent Detention Camp close to Changi Prison and the detention camp of the Special Branch at Wellesley Coast. During this long period, the Lee Kuan Yew clique has sought various ways to force Chia to plead guilty to resorting to acts of violence before he could be granted a conditional release. In May 1985, Singapore Home Affairs Minister S. Jayakumar announced that Chia Thye Poh would be released only after he (?admitted) publicly to charges of involvement in underground activities and a communist plot to overthrow the government by force. After this tactic failed, the Lee Kuan Yew clique again resorted to various acts of torture against Chia Thye Poh. [paragraph continues]

According to his father, the long imprisonment has worsened Chia Thye Poh's physical strength. Now a lung is damaged and his eyesight is deteriorating.

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights asserts that every human being is entitled to freedom of belief and personal safety, that no one shall be arbitrarily arrested or detained, that anyone is entitled to a fair and open trial, that anyone is entitled to the presumption of innocence before he is legally found guilty, etc.

The blatant violation by the Lee Kuan Yew clique of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights has been strongly condemned by domestic and foreign circles. Amnesty International, the European Parliament, and patriotic and democratic parties, organisations, and individuals in the peninsula have repeatedly appealed to the Lee Kuan Yew clique to immediately release the innocent Chia Thye Poh unconditionally. We call on all freedom-loving factions to continue to follow developments in the Chia Thye Poh case, fully support Chia's struggle for his basic rights, and force the Lee Kuan Yew clique to immediately release him unconditionally.

SINGAPORE

OFFER MADE TO TEST JOURNAL'S 'SINCERITY'

BK271153 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 27 Feb 87 p 1

[Excerpt] The Government made THE ASIAN WALL STREET JOURNAL [AWSJ] another offer yesterday to test the paper's sincerity.

It was willing, it said, to bear half of the extra cost involved in putting out a special Singapore edition of the JOURNAL with no advertisements.

Mr Martin Marini, Press Secretary of Communications and Information Minister Dr Yeo Ning Hong, said the additional cost would be less than 15 cents [Singapore dollar] per copy.

On Wednesday [25 February], AWSJ editor and publisher Fred Zimmerman turned down a challenge by Dr. Yeo, who said he was willing to let the JOURNAL be circulated free of charge, provided the free copies had no advertisements.

Mr Zimmerman said any suggestion to have a special no-advertisements edition printed just for Singapore would be "unreasonable" because of the additional costs involved.

In a letter to Mr Zimmerman yesterday, Mr Marini said: "We have confirmed that this proposal is technically feasible, the delay involved is negligible, and the incremental cost is only about US seven cents a copy.

"Since you claim that 'members of the Singapore business community are continuing to tell us that lack of access to the JOURNAL is hampering their operations', my minister further offers to share and bear one half of the additional mechanical costs in producing a special edition. [passage omitted]

Government Offer Declined

BK271209 Singapore Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 27 Feb 87

[Text] THE ASIAN WALL STREET JOURNAL [AWSJ] has declined the government's offer to bear half the cost of printing an edition of the JOURNAL without any advertisements. This edition, which is [words indistinct], is to be given free to its subscribers.

The JOURNAL editor and publisher, Mr Fred Zimmerman, said news and advertising were (?inseparable) part of the JOURNAL. Beyond that, as a matter of policy, he added that the JOURNAL does not take financial assistance from government. Mr Zimmerman was replying to the press secretary to the Ministry of Communications and Information who made the offer yesterday. The ministry is yet to reply because it received the AWSJ's response late in the evening.

SECOND DEPUTY PREMIER RETURNS FROM INDONESIA

BK271436 Singapore Domestic Service in English 1400 GMT 27 Feb 87

[Text] The second deputy prime minister, Mr Ong Teng Cheong, has described his trip to Indonesia as successful. He said it would be followed by one or two more high-level visits by Singapore officials this year. Mr Ong, who spoke to reporters on his return after the 4-day trip, said both Singapore and Indonesia should work toward starting more direct air links to promote tourism. He said Indonesia would be adopting an open-sky policy which would allow a new network of air links to many of the country's potential tourist destinations. Officials from both sides agreed that such a project would be of mutual benefits to each other.

BRIEFS

NEW HOUSE LEADER -- The prime minister has appointed Mr Wong Kan Seng, the minister for community development and second foreign minister, as the Leader of the House.
[Summary] [Singapore Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 27 Feb 87 BK]

AQUINO SETS DATE FOR CONGRESSIONAL ELECTION

OW030024 Tokyo KYODO in English 0016 GMT 3 Mar 87

[Text] Manila, March 3 KYODO -- President Corazon Aquino has officially set May 11 as the date for the Philippines' first congressional elections in 15 years and also the first elections under the new Philippine Constitution.

An executive order signed by Aquino last Saturday and released by the presidential palace Monday said campaigning for the Senate would begin on March 9 and for the Lower House on March 24. Both campaigns will end at midnight May 9.

The 24 senators will be elected on a national basis and 200 of the 250-member Lower House will be elected by district constituents. The remaining 50 congressional seats will be filled with presidential appointees from various sectors, including young people, farmers, workers and members of minorities. The new Constitution, approved in a February 2 plebiscite, restores a U.S.-style bicameral legislature abolished by former President Ferdinand Marcos when he declared martial law on September 21, 1972.

Meanwhile, Secretary of Agriculture Ramon Mitra announced that Aquino has accepted his resignation, enabling him to run for the House of Representatives. Mitra, a former congressman representing Palawan Province in the west-central Philippines, served as the government's chief negotiator during unsuccessful peace talks with communist rebels which ended in February.

Aquino earlier named nine of her cabinet secretaries who will be among the 24 administration candidates for the Senate. She is expected to announce her new cabinet at a press conference scheduled for Tuesday afternoon at the presidential palace. Another cabinet member, Political Affairs Secretary Antonio Cuenco, had earlier announced he would also run for a Lower House seat in a district in the central Philippine province of Cebu.

Issues Election Guidelines

HK030143 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2300 GMT 2 Mar 87

[Text] President Aquino has issued guidelines governing the elections on May 11 of members of Congress. The details from Art Pabellon:

[Begin recording] President Corazon Aquino released yesterday Executive Order Number 134, which governs the elections for members of Congress on May 11, 1987. The executive order sets the campaign period for the senatorial candidates to 60 days, from March 9 to midnight of May 9. The campaign period for the members of the House of Representatives, on the other hand, will be for 32 days [as heard] from March 24 to midnight of May 9. No campaigning will be allowed, however, on Holy Thursday and Good Friday, April 16 and 17.

The deadline for filing certificates of candidacy will not be later than March 8 for the Senate and March 23 for the House of Representatives. The same deadline would apply for the filing of the nominations of official candidates of registered parties, organizations, or coalitions with the Commission on Elections [Comelec]. The order also states that the official list of voters used in the February 2d plebiscite will be used in coming legislative elections with such additions, calculations, or corrections as have been made by the Comelec.

The president set aside the amount of P200 million for the conduct of the elections.
[end recording]

ENRILE SAYS AQUINO 'HAS NO CONTROL' OVER AFP

HK030123 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2300 GMT 2 Mar 87

[Text] Former Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile was critical of President Aquino at the Kapihan sa Maynila [Manila Coffeeshop] forum. The former defense chief said it is apparent that the president has no control over the military. He said her control over the AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] is only a legal one, but there is doubt about the loyalty of the military to her rule. According to Enrile, the cause of the military's alienation from the Aquino government stems from the soldiers' feelings that they are regarded as the enemy and adversary under the Aquino government. Enrile urged President Aquino to exert efforts to win the goodwill of the military men.

RAMOS URGES CIVILIAN-MILITARY COOPERATION

HK271355 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 27 Feb 87 pp 1, 8

[Text] Armed Forces chief Gen. Fidel V. Ramos yesterday raised the possibility of soldiers holding positions in the Aquino government where talent and experience are "desperately needed and in short supply."

It was the first time Ramos had suggested soldiers be brought into positions of power traditionally held by civilians.

Ramos' comments came a day after President Aquino, on the first anniversary of the downfall of the 20-year-regime of Ferdinand Marcos, called on the military to respect and defend civilian rule.

"Direct military participation in the government may not be considered suitable and acceptable in the Philippine environment," Ramos said in a speech to a Manila Rotary luncheon.

"But where talent and experience are both desperately needed and in short supply, good men, civilian and military alike must be used whenever and wherever they can be most useful."

The four-star general, regarded as critical in halting several coup attempts and plots against Aquino, also warned the danger still exists of a rupture in civilian military relations.

"The government today is ... susceptible to secondary infections which might make itself deteriorate further," Ramos said. "One is the danger of breakdown in the working relationship between civilian and military leaders.

"This breakdown can be prevented, as in fact it is being prevented, if both groups of officials share a mutual respect and a common objective.

"It is a paramount task of top government leadership to assure that this unity of interest and purpose is created and maintained."

Ramos warned that communist insurgents would continue to attempt to "drive a wedge" between the military and civilian officials, "forcing them so far apart that they would no longer be mutually supporting."

"Disunity is one of the shortest roads to defeat," he said.

A newly ratified Constitution declares that "civilian authority is at all times, supreme over the military." The declaration is preceded by the sentence. "The Armed Forces of the Philippines is the protector of the people and the state."

RAMOS SAYS INCREASING NPA ATTACKS 'VERY ALARMING'

HK030417 Baguio City Mountain Province Broadcasting Company in English 0330 GMT 3 Mar 87

[Text] Armed Forces Chief of Staff General Fidel Ramos has expressed concern over the level of attacks being carried out by the communist insurgents. In a news briefing after presenting medals to some 94 soldiers at the V. Luna Hospital in Quezon City, Gen Ramos said the latest trend is very alarming.

He noted the level of insurgency-related incidents during the first 2 months of 1987 has approached the level of violence in 1986. Gen Ramos further reported that during the last 2 months NPA rebels raided four town halls and two police stations. He said the general daily fatalities is three soldiers, two insurgents, and four civilians. the AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] chief added that henceforth the military will hit back hard and take decisive (?action) against pinpointed NPA lairs.

MALAYA ON CLARK AIR BASE 'MASSIVE' TROOP BUILDUP

HK021141 Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 2 Mar 87 pp 1, 6

[By Sonny Lopez]

[Text] Angeles City -- A massive buildup of troops and military support infrastructure is under way in Clark Air Base, fueling fears of possible direct United States intervention in the Philippines' anti-insurgency campaign, sources told MALAYA recently.

The sources said about 4,000 additional troops, mostly Marines, have beefed up the forces inside Clark. Recently, a whole detachment from the Marine Air Control Group [MACG]-18 from Okinawa was sent to Clark.

The MACG-18 set up a direct air support center in Clark. Its officials said the detachment plans to participate [in] and support the Coup Thunder exercise and projects the deployment of more units to the country by the third quarter of this year.

Recently, the Crow Valley bombing and shooting range stirred with a lot of activity when military airlift command units from Clark and the Marines' Third Battalion Landing Team held a joint airbourne -- air transport capability training exercise.

The Philippines Flyer, official publication of Clark Air Base, reported that the mission provided MACG-18 personnel and their airlift customers "realistic training in a tactical environment."

Filipino employees working at the flight terminal inside Clark told MALAYA of the unusually heavy arrival of troopers in the recent months.

A ranking official of the Angeles City and Mabalacat Hotel Association said most of the 31 hotels and motels in Angeles City and Mabalacat area register occupancy rates in the high 90s because of the presence of a big number of Americans.

A survey of bar owners by MALAYA in the city's nightclub row on Field Avenue in Balibago here revealed that nightclubs and cocktail lounges are enjoying a bonanza that may rival that of the Vietnam era when Clark was used as a rest and recreation stop by American soldiers.

In addition to the heavy U.S. troop movements in the country, Clark officials also announced the completion of a 3,500-foot long asphalt landing strip last Feb. 17. Another multi-million-peso runway is due for completion on June 27.

Other construction works are being undertaken inside Clark Air Base. This is a part of the P8-billion development program for Clark, Subic and other U.S. installations in the country.

RENEGADE OFFICER REPORTEDLY FORMING OWN 'ARMY'

HK271317 Quezon City BUSINESS DAY in English 27 Feb 87 p 6

[By reporter Joel D. Lacsamana]

[Excerpt] Renegade military officer, Lt. Col. Reynaldo Cabauatan, has organized his own army, the Nationalist Army of the People (NAP), aimed at fighting communist rebels and eliminating government officials perceived to be corrupt, military sources disclosed yesterday.

Cabauatan, together with other renegade officers, Gen. Jose Zumel and Col. Rolando Abadilla, are facing arrest orders due to their alleged participation in a coup attempt last Jan. 27-29.

Sources said Cabauatan is currently attempting to forge "some sort of a tactical alliance" with certain disgruntled elements in the Armed Forces who are still in active service.

Cabauatan and some 200 other soldiers were believed to be the reinforcing forces for the rebel soldiers who forcibly occupied the GMA-7 [television] station at the height of the coup attempt.

He and his men, however, were reported to have fled to the Montalban Mountains just outside Quezon City after the surrender of the other coup plotters.

Military sources said Cabauatan is also forging similar alliances with other local anti-communist and right-wing groups, including several organizations known to be loyal to deposed President Ferdinand Marcos.

Cabauatan, the same sources said, has also approached certain personalities and business firms which have been victims of "taxation" by the New People's Army both in the provinces as well as other urban areas, specifically in Central Luzon.

"His sales pitch to these businessmen is to offer effective protection against the rebels in their respective areas in exchange for logistical support which he claims is way below what they would actually pay the communist," one of the sources said.

Cabauatan has been boasting to other military elements he has been trying to recruit that the soldiers sent by AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] general headquarters to arrest him will not carry out their orders "because he is working for their interests: fighting the communists," sources said.

Reports said Cabauatan had decided to organize an armed vigilante group because "we can't overcome the evils of communism and democracy if we stay within the military service."

He also said the military is "restricted by laws which are often distorted to the advantage of the communists and corrupt government officials."

In the same interview, Cabauatan also denied that his group is planning to stage a coup to restore Marcos into the presidency.

He accused certain elements within the Armed Forces of spreading "unsubstantiated reports of alleged coups" which are inevitably blamed on him and his group. [passage omitted]

SUSPECTED NPA REBELS KILL COLONEL IN QUEZON CITY

HK030237 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 0200 GMT 3 Mar 87

[Text] A military official was killed and another was seriously wounded by three armed men around 0900 this morning at the junction of Banawe Street and Quezon Boulevard in Quezon City. The victims, who were riding in a military vehicle with license plate FB-110, were parked at a Shell station filling up on gasoline, while the attackers were riding in a car with license plate NBC-508. Killed was Colonel Casaler.

Reporters of the Bureau of Broadcasts said the attackers stripped the victims of their firearms before fleeing towards Espana Boulevard. The attackers are believed to be members of the arms grabbing gang of the NPA.

CPP SAYS AQUINO USED TALKS FOR COUNTERINSURGENCY

HK021255 Hong Kong AFP in English 1230 GMT 2 Mar 87

[Excerpts] Manila, March 2 (AFP) -- Philippine communists on Monday rejected President Corazon Aquino's offer of amnesty for all political offenders and accused the government of using peace talks and a recent truce for counter-insurgency operations.

Mrs Aquino's amnesty offer was part of the government's "soft tactics to countervail its naked sword of war," said Antonio Zumel, negotiator for the National Democratic Front (NDF) rebel alliance which represented the communist underground in peace negotiations with the government. [passage omitted]

The banned Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP), the leading group under the NDF umbrella, meanwhile accused the "U.S.-Aquino regime" of using a 60-day cease-fire which expired three weeks ago and peace talks for counter-insurgency operations instead of promoting peace. [passage omitted]

The CPP statement was the first time that the banned party had used the term "U.S.-Aquino regime" to describe the government which came to power a year ago after a popular revolt ousted President Ferdinand Marcos. Leftist groups used to call the Marcos regime the "U.S.-Marcos dictatorship" for allegedly bowing to dictates from Washington and U.S. interest groups. The Philippines is host to two large U.S. military bases.

"The U.S.-Aquino regime turned the cease-fire and the negotiations into one big counter-insurgency operation," the CPP said in the February issue of its organ THE NATION, a copy of which was delivered to AGENCIE FRANCE-PRESS Monday.

Armed Forces Chief of Staff General Fidel Ramos said Monday that the presence of civilians prevented military men from hitting at NPA guerrillas who raided at least four municipal halls after the truce expired February 8. But he warned that the military would hit known rebel hide-outs in the hinterlands and "whenever they hit or attack or ambush any of our military, police or civilian personnel, immediately our troops must conduct hot pursuit." [passage omitted]

The CPP claimed that at least 90 NDF members were killed and 320 villages affected by forced evacuations and food blockades during the cease-fire period. More than 100 people have been killed in separate clashes between communist and government forces across the country since the truce expired. At least 33 rebels and three policemen were killed over the weekend alone.

On the communists' rejection of the amnesty offer, Gen. Ramos said: "I think this could be because they fear (that) this could very significantly undermine their mass base as well as the non-hardcore among them who would be attracted to live once more a life of productivity and peace."

(In the southern Philippine city of Cagayan de Oro, local officials launched a rehabilitation and development program Monday for rebels who take advantage of the amnesty.

(Carlos Fortich, regional program chairman, said it included temporary shelter and livelihood, medical and legal services, and counselling. Those qualified for the program can also have 25,000-pesos (1,250-dollar) loans to cover subsistence needs and housing materials, he added.)

PARTIDO NG BAYAN DISMISSES AQUINO AMNESTY PLAN

HK021159 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 2 Mar 87 pp 1, 6

[Text] The left-leaning Partido ng Bayan (PNB) [People's Party] yesterday dismissed the Aquino government's amnesty offer to rebels as a replica of one previously offered by the Marcos regime, but the chief of the Philippine Constabulary said rebels should take advantage of the program if they are really sincere in "giving peace a chance."

Bernabe Buscayno, alleged founder of the New People's Army and at present a member of the PNB national directorate, said: "It won't work." He added that the amnesty offer would be met with cold soldiers by rebels in the hills.

"The underground movement has not struggled for many long years just to seek rehabilitation in the end, just to get money for its guns," said Buscayno, who addressed in Pilipino the municipal congress of the PNB Makati chapter.

He proposed instead the legalization of the Communist Party of the Philippines [CPP] and a free interaction of political forces in the country.

An official of the leftist coalition National Democratic Front (NDF) said an amnesty on its own would not help in reaching a political settlement and that the government misjudged the NPA.

Carolina Malay, who was on the coalition's team in abortive peace negotiations with the Aquino government, told reporters: "If they want to show sincerity in coming to an overall political settlement, the tactics of amnesty won't (help).

"I think they grossly underestimate the armed wing, the NPA. They seem to think they (rebels) go to hills on the spur of the moment -- that is not so."

Buscayno, who was among several hundred political detainees freed by Aquino last March, said PNB members faced the possibility of violence from the government as campaigning warms up for May's congressional elections.

"If ever there will be violence, if ever (our) people go underground and (PNB) supporters resort to other forms of struggle apart from parliamentary struggle -- it won't be our fault but the government's," he said.

Buscayno also urged the people to join and support the PNB, a political party which he said will serve as a venue for the people's genuine participation in addressing the fundamental ills of Philippine society.

The former NPA commander, who was released from detention by President Aquino after the February revolution, pointed out that the electoral struggle which the party will join is one of various fronts on which fundamental problems such as imperialism, capitalism and feudalism can be addressed.

But in a contrasting reaction, Maj. Gen. Renato S. de Villa welcomed the amnesty offer as part of the "overall package of reconciliation and development program of Mrs. Aquino."

He said the program applies to all "those who were in the outside and fighting the government."

"I believe that if they were really sincere in giving peace a chance, they would take advantage of this government's reconciliation program," he said.

De Villa had earlier reported that the rebel movement in Southern Mindanao, particularly in Davao City, has been losing its mass base as thousands of rebel supporters, including a few armed regulars, have begun surrendering.

KMP WITHDRAWS FROM LAND REFORM DIALOGUE

HK010720 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 1 Mar 87 pp 1, 7

[By staff member Paulynn Sicam]

[Excerpts] The Kilusang Magbubukid ng Pilipinas [KMP -- Peasant Movement of the Philippines] withdrew yesterday from its dialogue with the Cabinet Action Committee [CAC] on agrarian reform and increased its demands on the government in retaliation for President Aquino's order that sedition charges be filed against KMP leader Jaime Tadeo.

The KMP said it would stay out of the negotiations with the CAC "until justice is given to the farmers."

Putting more pressure on the government, the militant farmers group said that from its previous demand for adoption of the KMP's minimum program of land reform, it will from now on settle for nothing less than the implementation of a program based on the KMP "comprehensive agrarian reform program."

The KMP also dared the government to try to arrest its leaders. "We assure Mrs. Aquino that we wil not allow that to happen."

The entire national membership will demand to be arrested should Tadeo be taken into custody, the KMP said in a statement.

The CAC was created by President Aquino last month to study the demands of the KMP for genuine land reform, in particular its minimum program, and recommend a land reform policy and program for the government to adopt.

President Aquino ordered the filing of charges against Tadeo and four KMP members upon recommendation of the Citizens' Mendiola Commission [CMC] for allegedly inciting marchers to violence at a KMP rally in Mendiola on Jan. 22.

The commission was created by the President to investigate the killing that ensued during the rally.

The farmers' group accused the government of "bad faith." "While it conducts dialogue with us on matters regarding genuine agrarian reform, it shows bad faith by accusing our leaders of sedition and inciting to rebellion," the statement said. [passage omitted]

The farmers' group said that Aquino can still "redeem herself" by "listening to the peasants and taking action on six concrete demands:

- The relief of Defense Minister Rafael Ileto, AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] chief Gen. Fidel V. Ramos, Capcom [Capital Regional Command] chief Brig. Gen. Ramon Montano, Western Police superintendent Brig. Gen. Alfredo Lim.
- Immediate implementation of a comprehensive land reform program.
- A halt to harassment of peasants and indemnity for victims of "fascist violence and massacre."
- Disbandment of the CHDF [Civilian Home Defense Forces] and other para-military groups.
- Termination from service of all soldiers and officers responsible for the Mendiola, Lupao and Bataan massacres.
- Public censure of members of the CMC for "obstruction of justice through their perverted recommendations."

KMU ACCUSES MENDIOLA COMMISSION OF 'WHITEWASH'

HK020625 Baguio City Mountain Province Broadcasting Company in English 0330 GMT 2 Mar 87

[Text] The national executive committee of the militant Kilusang Mayo Uno [KMU-1 May Movement] labor union has expressed disgust with what it called a flagrant whitewash in the cover-up of the Mendiola massacre of the Citizen's Mendiola Commission. Speaking on behalf of the KMU national capital region chairman Roberto Villar said instead of charging the military as perpetrators of the massacre, the commission decided to charge the victims with sedition.

PCHR FINDINGS BACK WITNESSES OF LUPAO MASSACRE

HK021513 Hong Kong AFP in English 1459 GMT 2 Mar 87

[Text] Manila, March 2 (AFP) -- A government human rights body Monday said the findings of a team of experts which exhumed the remains of 17 people killed in a northern Philippine town three weeks ago supported witnesses' reports that the victims were summarily executed and were not victims of a clash.

The Presidential Committee on Human Rights (PCHR) said five of the victims were shot in the back while two were shot at close range, coinciding with the statements of survivors that some of the victims were shot by soldiers from behind after a clash with communist guerrillas.

Government soldiers have claimed that the 17 civilians were killed in the crossfire during a gunbattle with New People's Army (NPA) guerrillas who killed their commanding officer in northern Lupao town February 10.

The PCHR said the results of a medico-legal team's cursory examination [correlated with] testimonies of survivors who said the soldiers fired on the residents after the NPA rebels had escaped to the nearby mountains. "We found out how people were really killed, contrary to what was said that there was an encounter," PCHR member Sister Mariani Dimaranan told a news conference Monday.

Videotapes of the autopsy done in an open field showed the team removing slugs from the highly-decomposed bodies of the victims. The PCHR said they would file a resolution asking for "ballistic tests on the personnel involved" to determine from whose guns the bullets came.

Military officials have confined 85 men who were involved in the incident to a military camp in Pampanga Province north of Manila, where they are being probed on the incident.

REPORT ON 1986 HUMAN RIGHTS RECORD RELEASED

HK271341 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 27 Feb 87 pp 1, 6

[By staff member Marilou Mangahas]

[Text] The human rights record of the government last year was "a paradox of improvement and stagnation" -- respect for civil and political rights has been enhanced, but economic and social rights still need more safeguards.

This was the summary of a report of "The Human Rights Situation in the Philippines in 1986" prepared by Ms Socorro Diokno, close professional associate and daughter of former Sen Jose W. Diokno, resigned chairman of the Presidential Committee on Human Rights. The report was submitted to a conference of Asian human rights organizations held in Hong Kong last week.

Ms Diokno said "human rights violations continue under the Aquino government' owing to several factors:

- Government instability caused by at least seven coup attempts the past year.
- The failure of the civilian leadership to wield "effective control" over the military.
- The breakdown of the peace talks with the insurgent National Democratic Front.
- The Armed Forces' decision "to use all means at their disposal" to crush militarily the insurgency.
- "The unchanged character and attitude of the military establishment towards human rights."

These factors, she noted, "are harbingers of repression" and could have "serious implications on human rights in the near future."

"Although issued a new name and new uniforms," Ms Diokno noted that soldiers have not undergone a complete reorientation of their training that "consists mainly of an anti-communist bias, with little, if any, discussion of human rights."

She said this would "perhaps account for the soldiers' inability to distinguish between communism and nationalism, between rebellion and legitimate dissent or opposition."

"Initial steps" to improve on civil and political rights must be bolstered, she stated, "by immediate action to foster respect for the economic and social rights of the people," particularly the rights of labor.

There has been "virtually no change" in the status of social and economic rights, and the government "has not yet effected meaningful changes to uplift the standard of living of the marginalized sectors of society," Ms Diokno said.

For instance, she said President Aquino had retained "oppressive martial law" features of the Labor Code, such as Batas Pambansa [BP] 130 and 227, which were "the main reason why the International Labor Organization [ILO] condemned the Philippines for violating ILO conventions 87 and 98."

The two BPs allow direct government interference in the conduct of the strike vote. They also grant the president and the labor secretary the power to assume jurisdiction over strikes or to certify labor disputes for compulsory arbitration.

The government, she said, "must address the specific problems of the labor movement or it faces tremendous unrest."

Last year under Mrs Aquino, Ms Diokno cited that a record 572 strikes occurred, in which 22 workers were killed and 223 injured in the picketline, 145 arrested (aside from the mass arrest of 623 Paper Industries Corporation of the Philippines (PICOP) strikers), and 7 others still missing.

Ms Diokno cited figures on cases of human rights violations documented in the past year by the Task Force Detainees of the Philippines [TFDP], a church-based national network of human rights advocates.

From Feb. 27 to Sept. 30, 1986, she said TFDP affirmed that these cases continued, though their incidence had significantly decreased compared to figures recorded for the same period in 1985 under the deposed Marcos regime.

For the first seven months of the Aquino government, she said 603 persons had been arrested for "national security" offenses. Of these persons, 345 were released, 30 salvaged [summarily executed], 33 who had "disappeared" and seven others who had escaped.

A total of 238 torture cases has been reported, including 215 victims detained and 24 salvaged. Fifty-eight other persons were salvaged although their arrest had not been reported.

For the same period, she said TFDP data showed that 36 incidents of massacres, 34 incidents of mass evacuation, and seven incidents of hamletting had occurred.

In the massacres, 138 persons were killed and 35 others wounded.

Another factor that lends to human rights abuses, she reported, was the rise of paramilitary and fanatic cults which "assist and in some cases work hand in hand with the military in counterinsurgency operations."

While most human rights violations have been imputed on regular troopers, she forecast "a trend toward less actual military involvement in human rights violations but greater involvement by paramilitary, fanatic cults and other armed groups under direction and with the support of the military."

These figures, she said, represent only a third of the total number of cases reported in 1985 under Mr Marcos' rule.

According to Ms Diokno, "recent events have led some to believe that while human rights violations have decreased in number, the violations committed are much more onerous than those committed under the previous martial law regime."

For instance, she recalled that 19 persons died when Marines, policemen and troopers in civilian clothes fired at a farmers' rally on Mendiola last Jan. 22; a 10-year-old boy and a worker were killed at the picket in the Bataan Export Processing Zone days after; and 17 civilians were killed after a clash between rebels and soldiers in Lupao, Nueva Ecija, on Feb. 10. "These murders are inexcusable and unconscionable," Ms Diokno remarked.

Still, Ms Diokno reported that the government had created a Presidential Committee on Human Rights, ordered the compulsory teaching of human rights subjects in schools and among soldiers, repealed "a few of the repressive decrees" of the past regime, and ratified international covenants on human rights.

The first multilateral agreement signed by Mrs Aquino was the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. This was followed by the Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.

MNLF PROPOSES 5-YEAR TRANSITION IN SOUTH

HK021211 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 2 Mar 87 pp 1, 6

[By staff member Raissa E. Robles]

[Text] The Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) is proposing a five-year transition government to be headed by its chief Nur Misuari as the first step toward granting full autonomy to the South.

MNLF chief negotiator Habib Hashim explained the two-step process to the 'CHRONICLE' before he left Manila for Zamboanga City to prepare for the third round of talks starting March 9.

The transition period, Habib said, aims to give Mindanao residents time to adjust to autonomy as well as to rehabilitate and improve living conditions.

For this purpose, the MNLF is also proposing that local elections in the area be postponed until the transitional period ends in 1992. But, Habib said, the MNLF is willing to shorten this to a minimum three years.

Asked why Misuari should head it, Hashim replied: "But who will if not Misuari? After all he is the father and founder of the revolution."

However, those who want the position can run later on, he said.

After the five-year transition, a semi-parliamentary, autonomous government for the region would be set up, similar to that found in Quebec, Canada, the cantons of Switzerland and the federated states of Malaysia, Hashim explained.

MNLF is suggesting that the area be known as the Bangsa Moro Autonomous Region. Moro refers to all Muslims, Christian and tribal residents who would want to make the legacy of having fought for self-rule through the centuries' work, Hashim said.

It would have three branches -- the executive, legislative and judiciary. Christians, Muslims and tribal groups would all be represented in the three branches, he said.

The judiciary would operate under two systems, one applicable only to Muslims, and the other to Christians, non-Muslims and tribal minorities.

But MNLF still has to define what system would apply in crimes involving both Muslims and Christians. The Muslims would most probably be punished under the existing Penal Code and not according to the old set of Muslim laws which penalizes theft by amputating the hand, Hasim said.

Serious crimes, however, may still be punishable by death according to Muslim laws, he added.

The legislature would be an elective body with the power to pass its own budget and that of the autonomous region. It would also be able to contract foreign loans directly and legislate taxes and fees.

Hashim stressed the importance of giving the region the power to contract foreign loans. "We have past lessons of massive aid intended for Muslims ending up being spent here in Manila," he said.

The third branch, the executive, would be headed by a chief minister, a member of the legislature elected by his peers to the post. He would be assisted by three deputies and 16 cabinet members.

According to Hashim, regional government would have the sole power to control the exploitation of natural resources in the area. Most of the revenues from these as well as from taxes would be spent in the region.

Only a small portion would be remitted to the national government, he said. But he refused to elaborate.

On top of this, the MNLF expects the national government to give technical and financial help to the region.

To monitor expenditures, the MNLF is suggesting the establishment of a regional body with links to the Commission of Audit.

National defense would be the concern of the national government. Regional defense would be directly supervised by the chief minister of the regional government.

The MNLF is proposing that its existing Bangsa Moro Army (BMA) form the core of the regional defense force, subject to certain screening requirements agreed upon by the MNLF and the national government.

Education would fall under the regional government but with links to the Department of Education, Culture and Sports. Again, two systems would be followed. Only Muslims would be made to learn Arabic besides English and Filipino because "we're still a part of the Republic of the Philippines," Hashim said.

For the autonomous region to become economically viable, the MNLF proposal includes not only the islands of Mindanao, Sulu, Basilan, Tawi-tawi and Palawan. It also specifies the inclusion of the aerial territory and all surrounding bodies of water as well as its marine wealth and seabed.

Hashim, replying to a question that the MNLF would not make the autonomous government a stepping stone to independence, replied: "The burden of responsibility (of this not happening) lies with the national government. It has proved to us that we don't need independence anymore."

GOVERNMENT, IMF AGREE ON ECONOMIC POLICY

HK280818 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 28 Feb 87 p 21

[Text] The government and a visiting mission from the International Monetary Fund [IMF] yesterday reached an agreement on a set of macro-economic projections for the economy this year and in 1988 and various monetary quarterly targets (beginning the second quarter of this year) that the government must meet as a condition for quarterly drawdown from an IMF standby credit facility.

Finance Secretary Jaime V. Ongpin yesterday said the agreement embodied in a letter of intent and a memorandum of economic policy included major projections like a projected \$800 million to \$900 million balance of payments surplus this year, after taking into account the effects of rescheduling of debts under the Paris Club and debts to be rescheduled with the country's creditor banks.

He said the government will not seek any new commercial loans this year if debt rescheduling negotiations with the country's creditor banks next week prove successful.

Another finance department source said that the IMF mission agreed with the government's argument that the foremost need of the country's economy now is increased level of growth that is between six to seven percent which would necessarily be backed up by a public investment program.

Other points of agreement between the government and the IMF mission included the following:

- Growth of six to seven percent in gross national product in 1988;
- A five percent average inflation rate for 1987 and 1988;
- An average exchange rate this year at a level slightly higher than the prevailing P20.50 to \$1 and a further slight deterioration next year.
- An average crude oil price of \$17 per barrel this year and slightly higher price level for next year.

It was learned that the IMF originally projected that the average peso-dollar exchange rate for this year would be in the vicinity of P21.10 to \$1 primarily because of anticipated increase in the level of importations as the level of economic activities are projected to increase significantly.

But this projection was scaled down because the anticipated increase in demand for dollars that would consequently exert pressures on the exchange rate is expected to be met by increased dollar earnings from exports and remittances from overseas workers.

AUSTRALIAN ENVOY ON AID PROGRAMS, TOURISM

HK020159 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2300 GMT 1 Mar 87

[Text] Australian Ambassador to the Philippines John Holloway Saturday night expressed optimism that Australian investors and tourists will soon be coming to the Philippines due to the more stable political climate. In a speech before the general membership meeting of the Filipino [words indistinct] Fellowship Association, Holloway revealed that Australia supports the economic development objectives of the Aquino government. He said that in support of the economic objectives of the president, Australia has increased by 50 percent its aid programs to the Philippines.

LATE REPORT: 800 PEASANTS MARCH ON MALACANANG

HK031259 Hong Kong AFP in English 1242 GMT 3 Mar 87

[Text] Manila, March 3 (AFP) -- Several hundred peasants calling President Corazon Aquino a "fascist", marched on the Malacanang Palace Tuesday and daubed red paint on the pavement when police prevented them crossing the Mendiola Bridge.

Some 800 left-wing peasants staged a re-enactment of the January 22 incident when troops opened fire on thousands of peasants crossing the bridge to get to the palace, killing 12.

The marchers, most of them members of the Peasant Movement of the Philippines (KMP) which had organized the January march, lit candles for the victims and splashed red paint on the pavement to signify their blood, witnesses said.

Police and security troops were arrayed behind a row of barbed wire fences across the bridge, which is some 500 meters (yards) from Malacanang Palace.

Speakers at an impromptu rally called the Aquino government "fascist" and said Mrs. Aquino oppressed the workers on her family's sugar estate.

The marchers condemned the findings of a government commission of inquiry into the January incident. They demanded the sacking of Defense Secretary Rafael Iletto, Armed Forces chief General Fidel Ramos, Manila Constabulary chief Brigadier General Ramon Montano and Manila police chief Brigadier General Alfredo Lim for their alleged role in the killings.

The government commission last week recommended sedition charges be brought against peasant leader Jaime Tadeo who led the march, and the criminal prosecution of police, soldiers and civilians involved in the fatal shooting.

PAPUA NEW GUINEAMINISTER ON FRENCH TROOPS IN NEW CALEDONIA

BK280850 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0500 GMT 28 Feb 87

[Text] Papua New Guinea has accused France of deploying troops to intimidate the Melanesians of New Caledonia. The accusation has been made by Papua New Guinea's foreign minister, Mr Ted Diro, on the eve of his departure from Port Moresby for the meeting of South Pacific forum foreign ministers to be held in Auckland next week.

Mr Diro claimed there was now close to one member of the French Armed Forces for every six Melanesians in New Caledonia. He said the French Government had stationed more than 10,000 military personnel in the territory. They were well equipped and were now being deployed in rural areas where most of the Melanesians lived.

Papua New Guinea's foreign minister went on to allege that the midyear referendum proposed by France was designed to secure the interests of the French settlers and it would not allow the Kanaks to choose independence. Mr Diro said that in Papua New Guinea's view, this threatened the security and undermined the stability of the whole South Pacific.

TONGAPARLIAMENTARY ELECTION RESULTS REPORTED

BK220635 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0500 GMT 22 Feb 87

[Text] Final results of Tonga's election last Thursday has been announced with half the elected members of parliament being replaced. Of the nine people's representatives elected, six are newcomers. They include some of the government's strongest critics. And political observers in the capital, Nuku'alofa, said the first session of the new parliament in June is likely to be a fiery one.

Three of the new members are from Tonga's largest island, Tongatapu. They are a popular airline agent, Mr (Sione Matakihepuka Laboto); a newsletter editor, Mr (Sameula Akilisi Pohiba); and a lawyer, Mr (Lucky Niu). Mr (Niu) and two other newly elected people's members had been involved in bringing legal cases alleging improper parliamentary proceedings last year.

Earlier, the election of nine representatives of the kingdom's nobles resulted in three changes from previous parliament.

The 28-seat assembly will be completed by a 10-man cabinet appointed by King Taufa'ahau Tupou, and led by his brother, the prime minister, Prince Fatafehi Tu'i pelehake.

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